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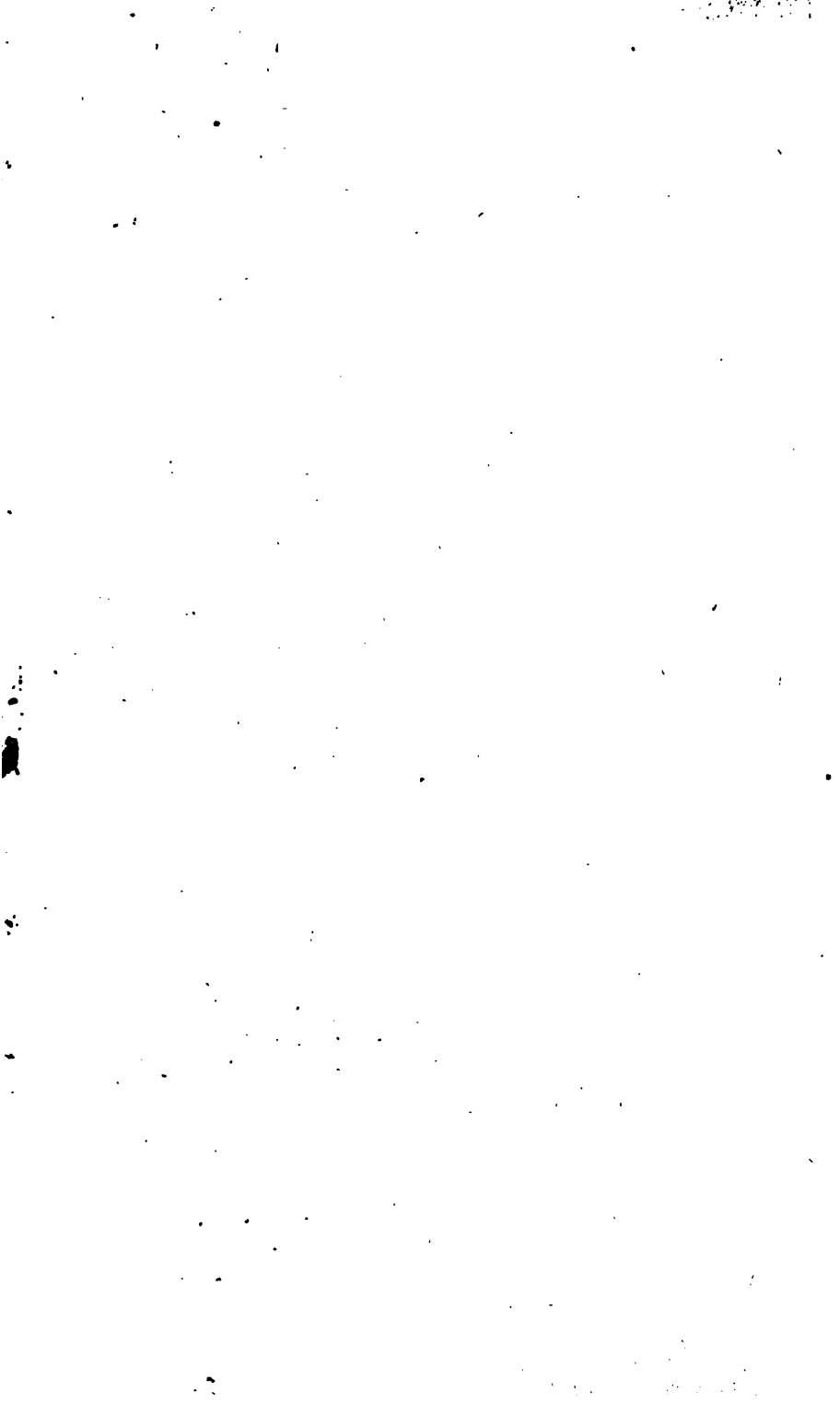
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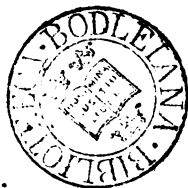
A
T R E A T I S E
O F
MODERN FAULCONRY:

To which is prefixed,
FROM AUTHORS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN,
AN INTRODUCTION,

Shewing the Practice of FAULCONRY in certain Re-
mote Times and Countries.

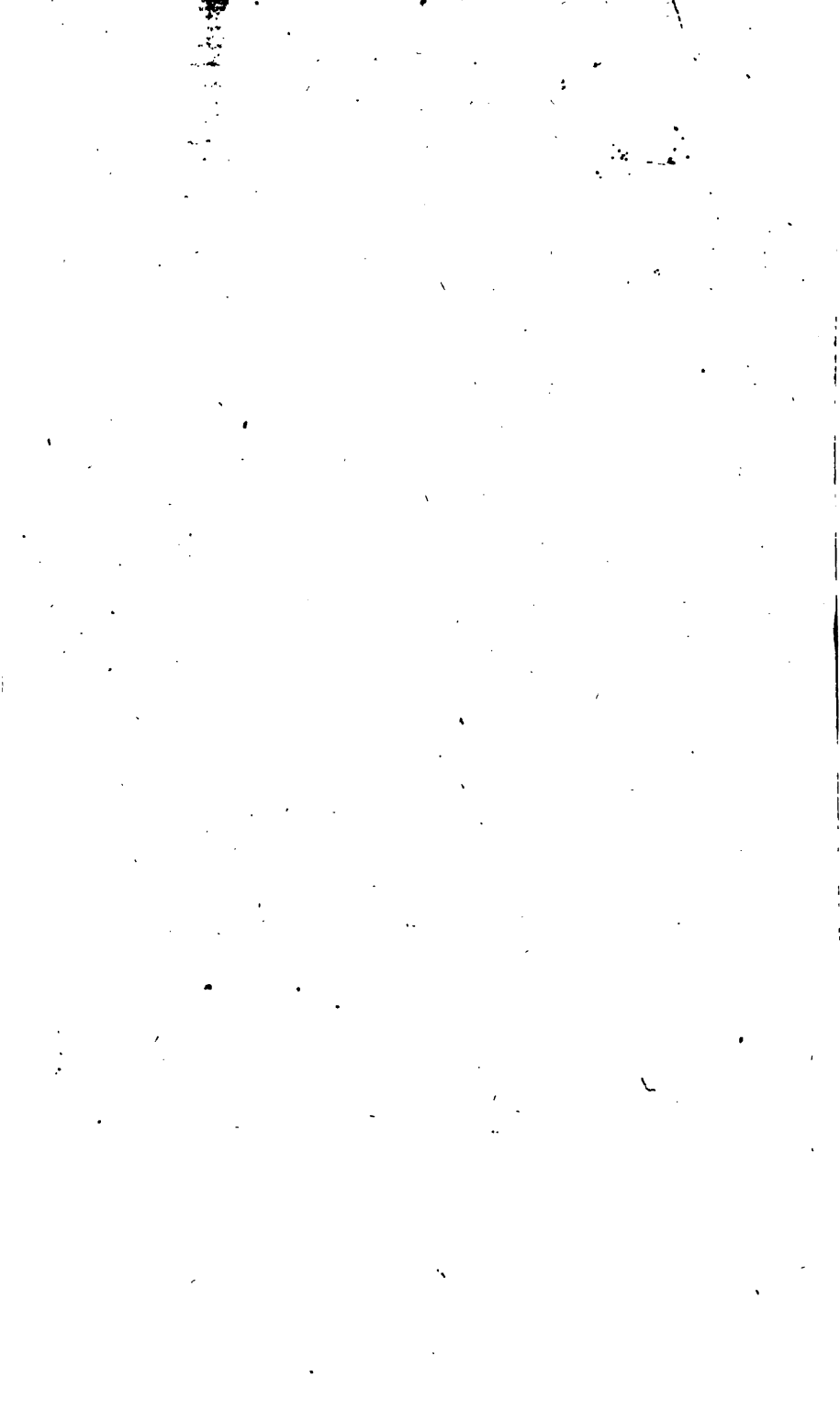
By JAMES CAMPBELL, Esq;

———*Nititur pennis.* HOR,



EDINBURGH:
Printed by BALFOUR & SMELLIE,
For the AUTHOR.
M,DCC,LXXIII.

268. b. 70.



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PRE-

P R E F A C E.

AS every nation has a peculiarity of manners which makes it different from its neighbours ; so every age has some predominant qualities which distinguish it from those that went before, and from those that come after it. The age of Leo X. is celebrated for the resurrection and rapid progress of the fine arts and of polite literature ; that of Cromwell is remembered with execration, as the triumph of tyranny, enthusiasm, and hypocrisy.

The characteristic of each age, however, is more clearly seen by posterity, who view it at the proper distance, than by contemporaries, who stand too close to it to observe it with exactness. This last being my own situation with regard to the present times, it is with hesitation I venture to place the spirit of them in a perfect energy of ridicule, scepticism, and incredulity, which delights in opposing almost every thing whatever. Men derive an extraordinary sort of pleasure from contradiction, which, thank Heaven,

ven, the peculiar structure of my passions cannot relish. They measure the worth of every object and opinion by the fickle standard of their tastes, humours, and prejudices—loudly condemning this moment the very things which but the moment before they embraced with raptures. Now they think it clever to turn whatever is respectable into a jest; whatever is probable, into doubt; whatever is demonstrable, into absurdity: But, were the world to give a general assent to their positions, they would straight stand forth as the redoubtable champions of common sense. Whether pride decoys them into this study of singularity; whether they are conscious of perfections which deserve the admiration of the crowd, and ought not to be obscured in it; this is an inquiry which demands greater acuteness than I am possessed of. I wish I may not be mistaken, when I take upon me to suspect they are the practical disciples of that laudable philosophy which surprises us with the discovery, that beauty and deformity, virtue and vice, are not in the objects to which we ascribe these qualities, but only in the feelings of those who contemplate them. Thus, the charms of a fine lady are not in herself, but in the inward emotions

emotions of her admirers : The integrity of a worthy man is not to be found in himself, but in the favourable sentiments of his neighbours : And my book must not, according to this humiliating system, pretend to any more merit than the generosity of my readers will be pleased to confer upon it. This amazing philosophy convinces me, that popularity is the great end to which all men ought to direct their actions, since, without it, they must all be fools, or knaves, or profligates ; and the ladies, let them see to it ! unless they learn to be a little more explicit and kind with regard to their fond languishers, must be all transformed into frights and witches. The man must have more than the patience of ten Jobs, whose internal feelings shall persevere to paint his mistress as an angel, after she has exhausted on the kind wretch her whole stock of torment, and made him more miserable than a score of devils. The reader will take notice that I do not speak my own experience : The sex have always used me with a warmth which I shall never forget, but, ah ! which I shall never again be able, however willing, to deserve.

If I have properly described the spirit of the times, I have little cause to hope that the work

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I am now offering to the public will procure me many compliments, since it is introduced with a few narrations which are not yet according to the common notions of mankind. My readers will easily discover the narrations I have in my eye; and I will not be so much their enemy as to deprive them of this delicious exertion of their sagacity, by pointing out these exceptionable parts of the book myself. I am not prophetic enough to foretel the treatment they shall think due to my labours; but hope it will not be of the severest kind, after they are acquainted with the motives which seduced me into the perilous character of an author. These, in a word, were, to entertain them with a view of Faulconry, in times and countries very different from their own; to help them to some insight into this manly art, as it is practised in modern days, if they do not already understand it; and to leave a remembrancer behind me, which may now and then tell future sportsmen that I lived not altogether useless to their interests. Such are the motives from which I have written; and, if I may be allowed to judge of their nature, they are far from being provocative to overwhelm me with the derision or contempt

tempt of any reasonable person whatever. Nay, I will be bold to say more; these motives will, to the truly learned and judicious, be an apology for the numerous oversights which their perspicacity will detect in my performance, but which their sweetness of temper will conceal from those who succeed best in criticism at second hand. Experience has taught me, that those who are the best qualified to judge are evermore the least forward to condemn; and, when necessity extorts their disapprobation, the readiest to soften the rigour of their sentence, by every comfort their humanity can suggest. Give me the countenance of a few men of this magnanimous character, and I shall easily endure the strictures of those who are actuated by the odd spirit of the times. Yet I must beware of exasperating men of their immense talents. I am a person myself of the most harmless and innocent disposition in the world, and most seriously inclined to live to the end of my days, without the smallest intercourse with them; and therefore they will lay me under the strongest obligations to gratitude, if they suffer me to walk on to fame, without the honour of their notice. Pox on't! do they imagine that an author can
find

find any amusement in their effusions of scorn, petulance, and acrimony, when they are directed against the best efforts of his mental powers?

But why should I hope to escape persecution?

This is a piece of good fortune which writers have not attained, who have handled subjects of very high importance, and with a reach of genius that commands my admiration and respect. The last, so far as I know, who has been attacked by the spirit of the times, is a gentleman who, ambitious of literary fame, and nobly qualified to earn it, has published a treatise on the **ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF LANGUAGE**, the beginning and pledge of a work which will do honour to the intellectual faculties. In this profound, but perspicuous, masculine, but elegant book, the author has displayed the most accurate knowledge of the operations of the human understanding, according to the conceptions of both the ancient and later philosophers. He remarks with great justness the difficult rise and tardy growth of our ideas, and applies his ingenious observations on that subject, by a beautiful analogy, to show that language is not natural to mankind; that is, language is not, as motion or sleeping, the effect

effect of any peculiar instinct, but acquired by experience, imitation, or instruction. This proposition, which no mortal ever did, or ever will deny, he illustrates, at great length, by examples taken from the very lowest and rudest stage of language; and thence ascending through some of the intermediate stages, to that which is generally allowed to be the most elegant and polished. Though he labours to establish a point which never can be overturned, yet he has rendered his work both useful and entertaining, by his detection of modern errors, and by the view which his uncommon knowledge of the Greek tongue has enabled him to present of ancient truths. Further; as his reasonings are conducted with a coolness and precision which is not usually met with, he is one of the few authors whom every man ought to study, who would learn to think with coherence, and to unfold his arguments with persuasive force and clearness. He seems to have been born to make the vanity of the philosophers of our days to shrink, by shewing them, that the most valuable of the logical and metaphysical notions, on which many of them build their fame, were as well known, and more elegantly explained by the ancients.

In a word, this author has an indisputable title to the character of a genuine philosopher, if depth of reflection, novelty of investigation, and strength of argument, can confer it; and therefore the spirit of the times has become his enemy.

This gentleman had, no doubt, the most refined and delicate enjoyment in perceiving his ideas rise formally in his mind, with ease and connection, and materially throwing themselves, as they rose, into the most natural and significant expressions. His pleasure would receive a vast addition of liveliness, when his imagination afterwards anticipated the praises which an approving world would lavish on his labours—so new! so surprising! so admirable! This is an agreeable delusion, to which we authors readily surrender ourselves, amidst the successful glow of composition; and, though our infirmity, it is absolutely necessary to support us under the wasting fatigue of study, and to push us on to the completion of our tasks. Bewitched by the hope of glory, we fancy that mankind, as soon as our works are announced to them, are to fling away their ordinary occupations; to run in all the eagerness of curiosity to our bookseller's,
for

for copies of the wonderful performance; to burst out, at every bright sentiment, into our applauses; and to talk, long, long afterwards, of nothing but our prodigious merit. Alas! amidst the fervors of our vanity we quite lose sight of the spirit of the times; but it soon starts up before our terrified imaginations, and convinces us, from the little accession of respect we derive from our lucubrations, that we only dreamed ourselves into importance.

Nothing surely can give deeper and more agonizing wounds to the self-love of an author, who has denied himself the ordinary amusements of life, in order to provide edification and delight to the public, than to find that the glorious efforts of his taste, wit, and ingenuity, are known only to himself and his bookseller, or, if known to a few more, are treated with neglect, contempt, or derision. This usage, which is shamelessly common, is so provoking, that, were my counsels of weight; in the republic of letters, equal to their wisdom, I would soon persuade all ingenious men to confine the illuminating beams of knowledge to their own breasts, and permit the shades of ignorance and barbarity to deepen over an ungrateful world. I am sure the great
philo-

philosopher, to whom I have paid that tribute of applause which is justly due to his extraordinary merit, will readily enter into, and heartily go along with this necessary measure, if his resentment bear any proportion to his wrongs. Perhaps all his friends have hitherto been too tender of the peace of his mind, to communicate to him the insulting opinions of his countrymen relative to his excellent treatise. And indeed I am miserable that I am among the first to assure him they are very far from thinking it as conducive to either their recreation or instruction, as he thinks it himself. They ask at one another, not in modest whispers, but in the plainest and most audible articulation, What spirit possessed him to misapply so much science and erudition in order to trace human nature, the object of so many celestial favours, back to a state little superior to that of the brutes? Then, they are sneeringly inquisitive to know, what particular blessing does he mean to confer on his fellow-creatures by such a fine metaphysical discovery; whether has it tended to give more strength to his own principles of religion and morality, or will it produce so noble an effect on theirs? But they are all vehemently agitated by the spirit of
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the times, when he tells them, they may be so accustomed to the water as to grow as perfectly amphibious as seals or otters;—that men must have been many ages in the state of the beaver before they invented a language;—that men, in their natural state, differ from the brutes only by their unexerted capacities, being totally destitute of ideas, laws, and religion;—that there is no associating principle in the human breast, but the fear of hunger, cold, and wild beasts;—not to mention many other pleasant novelties of the same marvellous kind.

My philosophy, which dares not venture beyond the art and practice of Hawking, qualifies me not to judge of these sublime speculations—but it enables me to conclude, that the learned and sagacious author, who has bestowed much study and inquiry for several years on such interesting paradoxes, deserves more credit in asserting them, than any other man deserves in denying them, who never bestowed any study or inquiry on them at all. These surprising discoveries flow most assuredly from his general system; and men would act more wisely, and more suitably to their present state of improvement, if, instead of controverting and ridiculing them,
they

they tried to find out the advantages wrapped up in them from vulgar sight. *First*, Is it possible to render mankind amphibious? In this case, the art of amphibiousness would be an important enlargement of the circle of modern education—as it would add to the sports of gentlemen that of hunting all sorts of fishes, and enable the poor to walk the bottom of the ocean in search of those treasures which have lain there from time immemorial, and are daily increasing. *Secondly*, Have men lived speechless, that is, without sounds significant, for many ages, in the state of the beaver? Why, to be sure, the Jewish legislator must, in this case, have been mistaken in the account he has left us of the origin of human society—and, if so, I fancy the wisest thing we can do, is to get rid of our Christianity as fast as we can, and embrace the charming and indulgent, the easy and polite doctrines which are so eloquently taught by the zealous and philosophical apostles of the free-thinkers. *Thirdly*, Are men, in their natural state, totally destitute of ideas, laws, and religion? On this supposition, all those people must be considered, notwithstanding their articulation, as still in a state of nature, whose minds are found empty, or nearly

nearly empty, of these matters. This very simple observation points out the expediency, and, indeed, the necessity of apprehending and putting such full-grown savages under the tuition of able masters, who may carry their capacities through habits and faculties into energies, for the intercourse of political society. I hope the author will not be angry with me for imagining that he is the properest person in the world to conduct an academy of this nature ;—both because he perfectly understands the dispositions of wild men, and because, in the course of his superintendency, he would make many curious remarks on them, which would render his intended history of man immensely diverting. *Lastly*, Does the human heart acknowledge no other principle of association than the fear of danger ? This granted, we are happily freed from the kindly stirrings of benevolence, and need give ourselves no trouble about performing the teasing and expensive duties of generosity and friendship, mercy and candour, towards our neighbours—except when our own interest or convenience engages us in them. These are a few of the profitable consequences that follow from our author's discoveries ; and of the benefit

fit of these, people bereave themselves, from their subjection to the spirit of the times.—I do verily believe, that by far the greater part of the human race are, upon one account or other, fit subjects for that academy, at the head of which our author might be placed with great propriety.

The reader will permit me to inform him, that I am apt to fancy myself grown acquainted with any person of whom I write long; and the author, I hope, will pardon me, if, in compliance with this foresaid humour, I address myself directly to him, as to a friend whom I have just acquired, and for whom I profess the most perfect energy and esteem.

“ You tell us, Sir, with an air of belief, which I think sincere, of men who ate fish four days without drinking till the fifth;—of men who lived on the best terms with seals, without drinking at all;—of men whose food was fruit and twigs, whereby they became as light as feathers;—of men who consider their own vermin as a very tolerable diet, and make a meal on them now and then;—and, of men whose rumps are embellished with fine, long, tapering tails, like those

those of cats. You will hardly believe what I am going to tell you, but it is a certain fact, that these, and the like blessed stories, which you produce from authors of unquestioned truth and acute observation, have made some people suspect you to be a sly arch wag, who wants to set simple men a gaping and staring, that you may have the pleasure of laughing at their silly confusion. For my own part, as I am as thoroughly persuaded of the truth of your stories as you are yourself, I cannot but wonder they meet with any opposition in a generation wherein it is not unfashionable to believe the non-existence of both mind and body;—but my wonder ceases, now that I recollect the contradictory spirit of the times. Your story of the men equipped with tails is to me a full confirmation of all the rest which are sprinkled throughout your valuable treatise;—and my ready assent to their real existence was originally produced by a precious book, written by a Frenchman, (and his nation, you know, is not a bit given to fibbing), and afterwards established by the sight which I had of one of these people myself. As you have not quoted this singular writer, who proves, with the greatest clearness, that all things on earth, ani-

mals as well as vegetables, were in the beginning produced in the sea, I cannot forbear thinking he is one of the few authors with whom you are unacquainted. His sixth day of the creation, wherein he treats of the origin of man, and of other animals, contains so many instances of men with tails, that, had you read him, you certainly would have strengthened Keoping's authority for this fact with his. He tells us, that these people are fierce in their dispositions, not overburdened with good sense, and of great bodily strength. There are, he says, a great many of them in Ethiopia, Egypt, the Indies, England, France, but especially in Scotland;—as to those in France, he declares he saw several of them himself. At Tripoli, he saw a black with a tail six inches long, who, with two oars, rowed a large sloop with greater swiftness than twenty ordinary men could have done; this man was covered all over with hair, and Borneo was his native country, where most of the men and women have the accomplishment of tails. He tells us of a French officer who had this appendage six inches long too, and was, all over his body, as rough and shaggy as a bear; and this account he received from an Italian courtesan, who spoke
of

of his countrymen in a stile that shewed she did not dislike him as a lover. He adds, that, in the island of Formosa, as well as in the Molucca and Philippine islands, there are whole nations garnished with tails;—and where, consequently, it would be monstrous to see people without any. To this French gentleman's stories let me join the opinion of some of the Jewish writers, who inform us, that Adam himself was produced with a tail; but those who have a mind to know into what this primitive tail was afterwards transformed, will receive ample satisfaction from Bayle's dictionary. I am afflicted beyond measure, that to these unquestioned authorities, I am not able to add that of the chaste and immaculate, the simple and ingenuous Mr Raubaud, who is versed to a miracle in matters of this kind. The man who saw eight and twenty Britons eaten at a breakfast by a tribe of Indians, must certainly have seen nations with tails,—and with large tails too; and, Sir, if he did not communicate this curious anecdote to you in conversation, his silence must be imputed to his fear of bringing his other stories into doubt, by retailing one, which, at first sight, would justify a little scepticism—among
people

people of narrow and prejudiced minds. Perhaps he was also concerned for the honour of his order, which such a seemingly bouncing narrative from a member of it might furnish ; for, it is well known to the articulating part of mankind, that the Jesuits in general are the declared enemies of trick, cunning, and deceit ;—of evasion, prevarication, and probabilism ;—of intrigue, politics, and caballing. But I hope the reverend Father Raubaud will not permit his delicate regard to veracity to rob the world of the numberless astonishing observations and discoveries which he has made in the course of his travels ; and, for his encouragement, I assure him, on both your part and mine, that his stories must be wonderful indeed ! if they surpass our vast energies of belief.

What I have said hitherto on this diverting subject, rests wholly on the veracity of other people ; but what I am going to advance further, rests wholly on my own. I saw one of these tailed men with my own eyes, who was a sturdy alert fellow ;—and, indeed, Sir, he was the owner of a signal tail ;—a tail, Sir, of honourable dimensions ;—a tail, that shewed he was endowed with strong parts, and qualified to fill the greatest places.

ces. As he spoke only the inarticulate language, which no body about him understood, I cannot gratify your curiosity with a detail of his parentage, education, or adventures, from his own mouth—which to you would be extremely entertaining, as it would be to myself, because it would be extremely singular. Nicobar, I suppose, gave birth to this hapless foreigner, and saw his earlier years gliding away in careless gayety, under the soft indulgence of parents, who beheld with joy his gay and lively genius daily expanding and advancing to its full vigour. They would thence prognosticate exquisite felicity to their dear boy; and that he might enjoy his future fortunes with dignity, they sent him to Borneo to polish his manners, and learn the knowledge of the world by travelling. Their parting with their darling would be a scene of the most affecting tenderness;—perhaps he was the stay and last hope of their family. They would dread the violence of the tempests, the unwholesomeness of sea-provisions, the change of his native air;—and, ah! they would supplicate him to beware of riotous living, of meddling with the prejudices of strangers, and of making too ostentatious a display of his tail, which might cause his good sense to be called

called in question. They would embrace him with hearts filled with anxiety, and eyes streaming with tears, and tails dangling sorrowfully down to the dust; perhaps, the youth himself beheld their anguish with some yearnings of filial love;—but these emotions would soon yield to the joy of seeing himself at his own disposal, with plenty of money in his pocket, and on his way to a land overflowing with every thing capable of pleasing his senses, and charming his imagination. At length he landed in Borneo, merrily wagging his tail on seeing himself again on firm ground, and impetuous to plunge into all the dissipations of this voluptuous country. How long he continued in that delicious course of sensuality on which he now entered, or for what misdemeanour he was afterwards banished from it:—These, Sir, are parts of this young man's history, of which I dare not pretend to have any certain knowledge. Perhaps, he had fought a duel—or had cheated at play—or had derided the superstitions of the natives—or had plotted against the government—or had tried to bilk his creditors—or had aspersed the character of the prime minister;—I say, perhaps; for I would not positively aver he was punished for

for any of these crimes, as I have no sort of evidence to prove such a heavy charge. Nay, as I never saw myself, or heard from others, that the poor lad had the least propensity to any of these atrocities, I cannot imagine they were the source of his misfortunes ; but, as he always manifested a languishment of temper, which seemed to incline to gallantry, I suspect, that his exile originated from some indiscreet affair of the heart. Be this as it will, it is certain he was delivered into the hands of some British sailors for transportation, who landed him safe in Ilay, and presented him as a curiosity to a gentleman there ;— in the corner of whose kitchen-chimney I saw him chained to a great wooden block, which served him for a stool as well as a stake. I own, Sir, it raised a secret indignation in my breast, to see such a noble, clever, lively stripling treated with so much contumely, for a transgression which is every day committed, and every day forgiven, in the most polite and enlightened nations on this side of the globe.—Ah ! how it would have stabbed his indulgent parents to the heart, to have seen the young gentleman compelled to mingle with menial servants, and involved in dismal clouds of peat-reek, which

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conspired with his woes to exhaust the moisture of his eyes! The fortitude with which he bore his sufferings was altogether heroic. He disdained all intercourse with the men, and wrenched out out of their hands the sticks they lifted up against him, with a force and agility that shewed nothing wanting to him but freedom, to convince them of his ability to do himself justice. But his carriage to the women was not roughened into aversion by all the disasters they had occasioned him; to them he behaved with all his natural politeness; particularly to the kitchen-maid, for whom he had conceived the warmest and most direct passion. Alas! he felt his heart faster entangled in the charms of Kate, than his body in the iron chain which surrounded it. In vain his parents now visit the coast, to descry the ship which is to bring their darling to their arms! In vain his former mistress hopes to press the accomplished youth to her heaving bosom! In vain the monarch of Nicobar expects to place him in his council, and number him among the brightest lustres of his court! The chain, and Kate more attractive than the chain, detain him from their ardent wishes, and sink his fame and fortune in the thickest shades of obscurity.

Sir,

Sir, if this plain narration, consisting partly of fact, and partly of conjecture, do not convince the spirit of the times of the actual existence of creatures with tails, which are indeed real men and women—the following method, to which I advise you in a friendly way, is the only expedient whereby you can vanquish the reigning ridicule, scepticism, and incredulity. You need only to procure an infant from Nicobar, and, as the humanity of the Ouran Outangs is also brought into doubt, you may, at the same time, get one of their infants from Angola.—You may easily obtain the latter from an East-India captain, and the former from any worthy gentlemen who are concerned in the slave-trade. If you can instruct these children in languages, arts, and sciences, you will thoroughly confirm your speculations, force conviction into the spirit of the times, and spread your fame from the rising to the setting of the sun. The young men might be sent home after their education, where they would teach their countrymen to form ideas, to make abstractions, and to bend their tongues to articulation; greatly to the improvement of natural knowledge, and to the extension of the British commerce.

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We

We original, or rather eccentric, authors, labour under numberless difficulties, from our superiority or opposition to by far the greater part of mankind, by which we excite their envy or resentment. The novelty of our theories and illustrations strikes them at first with surprise; but that emotion soon yields to a concern for their own familiar and rivetted prejudices, which they now think endangered. What they themselves never saw or heard of before, they fancy could not have been seen, and ought not to be reported now; and so they grow angry at us for kindly endeavouring to widen the compass of their knowledge. Thus it falls out, that you have, and I shall probably have, so many adversaries; but I am prepared for my sufferings, by the view of those which you actually undergo. I wish I had your philosophy to enable me to endure mine with that meek and gentle dignity, with which, I suppose, it enables you to endure yours. We shall persevere, however, to bring into the rank of truths those things which the ignorant have hitherto placed among fables, regardless of such persons as judge of the state of the whole world by the little spot wherein they were born. Writers of our uncommon character must
rest

rest satisfied with the approbation of men of large minds;—and, as you, Sir, are endowed with a very large mind, I cheerfully dedicate the following introduction to you, which you will perceive to be pretty much in the spirit of your own book. May I hope that you will deign to accept of this mark of my sincere respect and esteem? I rejoice in the support which my stories receive from yours, and in that too which I flatter myself yours receive from mine; and hope we shall evermore fight reciprocally for the wonders of each other. Meanwhile, I beg leave to assure the public, that we have not written in concert;—I did not suggest a single hint to your treatise, nor did you furnish a single *tale* to my introduction.

I N-



INTRODUCTION.

HUNTING, Fishing, and Hawking, are diversions which join profit to amusement. On the former account, they were anciently the serious business of all ranks; and, on the latter, are now followed by the great and opulent.

Mankind were unacquainted, in the more early period of society, with the easier arts of living, which accident or ingenuity has since brought to light. The spontaneous fruits of the earth afforded them but a lean and scanty subsistence; and they were, therefore, obliged to prey on the wild inhabitants of the forest, the flood, and the air.

These animals were, many of them, superior to mankind in strength, and, all of them, in agility; and so men could not master them by their bodily powers. In order then to get them into their hands, they sought the aids of contrivance and stratagem.

They observed, that the same creatures which they wanted to feed on, were food to other creatures

30 I N T R O D U C T I O N .

tures qualified by nature to seize them. Thus, they saw the hare run down by the hound ;—the salmon dragged out of the pool by the otter ;—and the partridge born away by the hawk.

Human invention, sharpened by necessity, is wonderfully rich in resources. Men, seeing with what facility these creatures subdued their prey, would soon perceive the advantage of being connected with them. Hence they would form the design of taming them to their service. As the fields produce more animal food than either the water or the air, the dog would be the first object of their flattering regards. Those who lived on the banks of the river, would court the otter to their familiarity, and make him contribute to their maintenance also. These essays would give origin to hunting and fishing ;—sports, which the skill and industry of succeeding ages have carried to their perfection.

These sports fall not within my design ; and therefore I leave them, with just observing, that they were probably known before falconry. The reason is obvious. The fields and the streams are more accessible than the heights of the air ; and dogs and otters are at first sight much more tractable than hawks. Those methods of procuring
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ring food which appeared easiest would, for that reason, be preferred, by a starving generation, to those that seemed next to impossible.

It is from the amusements of children I am going to deduce the rise of the noble science of falconry. They who know the esteem I have for this science will acquit me of having any design to lessen its dignity by such an origin. If people trace back the most useful arts of life, they will discover few of them which do not owe their existence to chance.

Whoever has examined the first appearance of a hawk, must confess, that it does not look as if it were capable of culture. Its eye is sharp and ferocious—its motions are quick and impatient—and it furiously attacks, and ravenously feeds on its prey. Men would therefore regard the hawk as irreclaimable, and think as little of employing it to procure game for them, as of the wolf to provide them in venison.

What seemed impossible to ripened reflection, was shown to be practicable by the diversions of children. Every body knows how remarkably fond they are of young birds, and how tenderly they bring them up. They also display much ingenuity in wearing off the natural wildness of the

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the little creatures, and in habituating them to understand their signals, and to obey their voices.

Parents, observing this innocent propensity of their children, would gladly take every opportunity of gratifying it;—and their way of life would give them many. The chase, to which they were attached by necessity, would sometimes lead them among the cliffs of high rocks, where hawks are wont to place their eyries. When they lighted on those with eyesses, their parental affection would prompt them to carry home the young birds to their children. Taught themselves by observation, that hawks fed on flesh, they would direct their children to bring up the eyesses with animal food.

The young hawks, being now continually among the hands, and accustomed to the voices of the children, would soon forget their natural wildness, and contract an affection for those who bred them. They would fly from their hands, soar around them in the air, and then return to them. On these occasions, it would divert the children exceedingly, to observe the consternation into which their birds cast all the winged tribes,

tribes, and with what boldness they pursued and attacked their prey.

Children are naturally generous and communicative—almost incapable of enjoying pleasure out of a crowd. Actuated by this disposition, they would invite their parents to partake of the happiness themselves drew from the flights of their hawks. Imagine how great must have been the amazement of these simple people, when they saw, for the first time, birds, which ever before they had thought irreclaimable, managed by their children. It would look like a prodigy, to see them mounting to the skies from the hands which fed them, and returning immediately at the sound of the voices which caressed them. Men would be still more astonished to observe them so very tame as even to part with their prey to their keepers, and fly afterwards in quest of more with their former spirit.

Astonishment would give way to reflection. The more sagacious would perceive, that, by the hawk, they might command the sky, and thence open a new source of provisions. The experiment was worth the making; and those who first conceived the idea of it, would no doubt go directly about it. The attempt would, as is usual,

expose them to ridicule, and bring the soundness of their understandings in question, among that set of mortals, who, to the dulness gifted them by nature, have made a proper addition of self-conceit. The success of their first essays would soon put to silence such of the laughers as were not incorrigible, and encourage their perseverance. The hawk now shared their affection with the hound, and the training of it became a capital object of their attention. They studied its temper, sought the best ways of preserving its health, and investigated remedies to cure its diseases. They imparted their observations to their children, who handed them to theirs, augmented by their own; and thus falconry grew, out of the experience of successive generations, into the regular system in which we now see it. This science brought within the power of men every bird productive of food or diversion; and the air, which had been so long to them a barren desert, became a fund of luxury and recreation.

Hawking is one of those amusements which is suitable to the majesty of kings, and to the grandeur of nobility and higher gentry. It is easy to account for the air of dignity which now attends it.

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The experience of one age transmitted to another enlarged and polished the human mind; and men took hold of and improved every incident which tended to render life more easy and comfortable. As they proceeded in the culture of their intellectual powers, arts and trades were invented; and these, in their turn, promoted the advancement of civilization. Mankind, accordingly, withdrew themselves gradually from their original, but precarious, way of living by hunting, and engaged in pursuits which at once softened their tempers, and procured them a certain livelihood. Hawking, and the other sports of the field, were indeed productive of much diversion, but did not always defend them from the attacks of hunger; and therefore they were glad to exchange them for occupations, which never put them to fruitless toil.

Faulconry now ceasing to be regarded by the lower ranks of men as necessary for the support of life, fell intirely into the hands of persons of birth, fortune, and leisure. Kings and princes, nobles and gentlemen, pursued the sports of the sky, while their inferiors made carts, followed the plow, or bred cattle. Nothing could be more fortunate to society than this revolution, which
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was the cause of the gentility and greatness that are now ascribed to hawking. It delivered this art of promoting strength and agility, by the allurements of pastime, from plebeian use, and reflected on it the honour and magnificence of the illustrious personages who were devoted to it.

Monarchs now took the hawk under their protection, and senates enacted laws for the preservation of its life. The same hands which swayed the sceptres of nations, and stretched forth commanding truncheons to victorious hosts, did not disdain the weight of the keen-eyed bird. Sage lawgivers viewed it with admiration, and thought their wisdom properly employed in securing it from the folly and violence of men. The mews at Charingcross shew what edifices were reared for its reception; and officers, with honourable salaries, were appointed to take care of its welfare, and train it up for its functions. Faulconworth, the city where it still triumphs, demonstrates the honour wherein it is still held by all the princes of Europe, who maintain falconers there to provide the finest birds. The manly pleasures which flow from its spirit, rapidity, and tractableness, made it worthy of, and rewarded, all the attention of which it was the object. When it pursues

pursues its prey to the clouds—it draws up the eyes of all men after it, and fills their souls with the most agreeable fits of surprise. So exquisite is the delight it then bestows, that it robs sovereigns of the obsequious regards of their soothing courtiers, and confounds the lords of the earth with the gazing and wondering crowd which surrounds them.

When we compare the state of falconry in our own days with what it was in ancient times, we must acknowledge and lament its sad decay in the world. It is not difficult, and it may be worth while, to point out this deplorable revolution of sporting in its causes.

It was when hounds and hawks were the only means whereby the recreations of the field could be enjoyed with dignity, that the reputation of falconry was highest. It was then studied and practised by men of rank and distinction in every country of Europe, where any thing of civilization existed. Game was to be found every where in the greatest plenty, without the interposition of the legislature for its preservation—hawks being adapted to give much sport without much slaughter. But fire-arms were at length invented;—and this invention introduced as remarkable

able an alteration into sporting as it did into the art of war. The sportsman had hitherto drawn his pleasure from observing the various surprising turns of the chace or flight ; and when he obtained it, he was little mortified that the hare or woodcock made its escape at last from his hounds or hawk. This is the true idea of the pleasure which the sports of the field are qualified to afford ; but this idea was gradually lost after guns were made of easy carriage, and pointers trained to find out game. Sport came now to be confined intirely to the act of putting the game to death ; and a man measured the liveliness of his diversion according to the number of animals he had slain. But still no birds were yet killed which kept in cover ; and therefore the game continued to be plentiful enough for every kind of sporting. This new idea, however, of sport, made hawking decline ; because, a good marksmen could procure more of this bloody sort of amusement from his gun than from a hawk. It also helped very much to bring the latter into disuse, that the former could be kept with less expence and without any trouble. Though the pointer and gun were of considerable detriment to hawking, at their first introduction ;

duction; yet they did not triumph over this diversion, till the dexterity of the French lighted on the knack of shooting on wing, and taught it to their neighbours. This knack enabled every man to act up to his idea of sporting, by the ease and certainty with which it enabled him to kill game: And thus it reached a blow to falconry which has proved almost fatal to it. A man of a sure eye may now kill or wound, in a few days, all the fowls of an extensive moor; and by this means the gun has not only hurt falconry, but also gone near to exterminate the game altogether. Hawking is at present confined to a few noblemen and gentlemen, who, with the spirit of their great ancestors, inherit their masculine taste for the sports of the field likewise.

The almost universal attachment of sportsmen to the pointer and gun, shews their degeneracy from the elevated amusements of their predecessors, in a light—a light, which I never open my eyes to, without all the anguish of the bitterest regret. Could a falconer, who lived two or three centuries ago—ah! that flourishing period of the princely sport! burst the chains of death, and get for a few days into the world—how it would grieve his manly heart, to observe
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the neglect into which the hawk is fallen! He would survey the scenes of his former joys—and, with such tears as spirits shed, mourn long over the melancholy stillness which reign over those hills and dales which his own voice used to awake into life and exultation. His sorrow would receive new pungency, when he perceived how scarce his brethren are in society—how obsolete their language and hallowings are grown—and that a price is set on the head of the hawk, as if this generous bird had been guilty of the most atrocious crimes. The manifest inferiority of our age to his in sport, would fill his soul with indignation; he would fly from the hated sight, to his residence in the other world, and carry tidings to the band of departed falconers, which would communicate to them the angry emotions of his own breast.

These reflections call up before me the majesty and honour of ancient times, when every warlike baron prepared his hardy limbs for the toils of battle, by the heavenly recreation, and make me bewail my severe destiny, which has thrown me forward into a generation which it is dangerous to paint in its true colours. Every turreted castle rears itself to my fancy, surrounded

ed with hawks perching on their blocks in stately order, or echoing from its vaults, responsive to the adjacent rocks and lakes, with the cheering voices of their keepers, who direct their circling flights. Now the falconer's voice, loud, full, and tremulous, ushering in the morn, strikes mine ear ; which, from the morn, till the shades of evening deepen into night, animates the silent loneliness of forests, vales, and mountains, with tones of manly gladness. The numerous game, yet undiminished by the gun's murderous violence, obscures the face of heaven with multitude, and offers to the wondering eyes of the spectators all the varieties of sport to be derived from aerial chace and conflict. In this glorious period, indolence and dissipation were not collected, at high expence, from every corner of the world ; and luxury was a vice which did not vex the holy meekness of our priests, nor exasperate the keen indignation of our satyrists. The stimulating seductions of the table prolonged not the feast beyond nature's call ; nor did the down and gorgeous furniture of the bed force voluptuous slumbers after the sun had proclaimed the day. The plain and copious meal, by hunger seasoned, and sleep, profound as death, by weariness brought

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on, flushed with ruddy health the looks of nobles and gentles; gave a spring and firmness to their steps; and swelled their souls with courage and resolution, which laughed at danger. They fought as they sported, when their country's wrongs demanded their sword, with keenness and alacrity, and preluded to the field of battle, while they attended the flights of their hawks. These were the times when a man, inspired with the sublime enthusiasm of falconry, would wish to have lived!

Those who are at present addicted to the pointer and gun, are not, however, altogether excusable——though those who first forsook the hawk can claim no sort of apology. The former are come into the world when fowling is the prevailing diversion; and so they go along with the fashion, without once considering whether there be any other diversion more worthy of their pursuit. To take a sure aim, is celebrated as the grand accomplishment of a sportsman; and the number of fowls he kills in a day is always rehearsed to his praise. Accordingly, a young gentleman, who hears such discourses, studies the direction of his eye, as soon as he is able to manage a gun, and pants for this sort of bloody

bloody dexterity. He is extremely mortified when he returns unsuccessful from the field, and received by his acquaintance with sarcasm and laughter; but, when his hand and eye have done their duty, he produces the feathered spoils of the air with smiling triumph, and is treated with respect by those around him. Thus his taste for sporting is so early corrupted, that it can hardly ever be reformed afterwards; and he becomes the depraver of others in his turn.

Might I obtain leave to name epicures and poachers in the same page with sportsmen, I would say, the present plan of the recreations of the field seems calculated only for those people. The nice epicure, who picks felicity from the bones of fat partridges, poults, and woodcocks, is deeply interested in the death of these fowls, and prompted by his liquorish palate to kill as many of them as he can. The wandering poacher adopts the same conduct from another motive, that of drawing bread and brandy from sauntering and idleness. The voluptuous epicure, therefore, and the worthless poacher, are furnished with reasons to justify their love of shooting on wing, perfectly suitable to their respective characters—but by no means to that of a genuine sportsman,

sportsman, who professes to seek pleasure, not death, from his amusements.

There are two consequences of the gun, which I would humbly recommend to the notice of gentlemen. *First*, This engine sets the vulgar on a level with them in point of the sports of the field. And, *Secondly*, it threatens the utter destruction of the game. Here objects are at stake, and ready to be annihilated, of no less importance than the rank of our gentry, and the very existence of their pastimes. This is as true as it is alarming, and calls for an immediate remedy.

First, With regard to the elevation of the vulgar to the rank of gentlemen, let the following observations meet with the attention they deserve.

All men come into the world in nearly the same state of weakness and stupidity. Place an infant prince among a score of infant beggars, the former without ornaments, and the latter without rags, where is the man who could separate his Highness from the lousy rogues at first sight? It is not the make of the body, therefore, nor the structure of the mind, which distinguishes the higher from the lower ranks of mankind.

mankind. Nature is equally beneficent to both gentlemen and peasants in these respects; and these are as capable as those of the polish of education and company. What then are the discriminating circumstances between them? Why, a line of ancestors remarkable for public and private virtue—opulent possessions originally conferred by the sovereign in approbation of high merit—and a conduct regulated by the laws of bravery, generosity, politeness, and justice. These are the foundations of true gentility, and always bestow it—whatever the man's birth is in whom they centre. Gentility is displayed to the world, sometimes by an easy propriety, and sometimes by a dazzling magnificence of lodging, table, dress, retinue, and amusement—beyond the reach of people in the lower stations of life, but beheld by them with deference and respect. Now, could all men rise to the splendors of gentility—the real gentleman would see his dignity lost in the crowd, and himself, without notice, unless his superior talents and virtues could command it. Whatever diversion, therefore, he pursues, in which the vulgar can share with him independently of his permission, diminishes from the submis-

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five regards they owe to his character and situation in life; and accordingly, it is observable, that a man of rank is treated with a freedom that approaches to familiarity in the field, by the same persons who appear before him with the most bashful awkwardness in his drawing-room. This difference of behaviour in different places is easily explained. The gentleman is seen in the field with his dog and a gun—an equipage in which they often see themselves, and which, on that account, seems to shorten the distance between him and them; but the splendour of the drawing-room, and the elegance of his own dress, raise him in their eyes to his natural elevation, and so they come timid and abashed into his presence.

Thus, the gun confounds all ranks and conditions of men, in as far as diversion forms any difference among them; and, as those in the inferior stations of life who sport with it, are more numerous than those in the higher, the meanness it derives from the former quite attains the honour it might pretend to from the latter. All, all the common people are smit with the love of burning powder and scattering lead;—they roam over our hills and plains, treading in paths which
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anciently were to elves and heroes only known ;
 —they make the welkin ring with ignoble noise,
 burst from rusty firelocks vile. Every bowing
 shopkeeper, and pale-faced mechanic, get them
 short coats, and old muskets, and reprobate set-
 ters—and steal away once or twice a week in
 masquerade from their lawful business, to make
 war on the beasts of the field and the fowls of
 the air. The moor-herds also look after their
 cattle in the same accoutrements ; and the far-
 mer, stimulated by the recital of their exploits,
 deserts his plow, and strides over the heath in
 quest of adventures. Hence it happens, that a
 well-bred man, when he fancies he descries a no-
 ble lord whom he wants to salute, and his attend-
 ants at a distance, is surpris'd to fall in at last
 with a moving group of taylors, barbers, and
 shoemakers, clumsily travestied into a ridiculous
 similitude of men of vivacity, fire, and blood. By
 a mistake of the same kind, when he imagines
 he sees one of his neighbours on the summit of
 a remote hill whom he wishes to join, he is sadly
 disappointed, on coming up, to discover a wea-
 ther-beaten, thick-boned, mutton-fisted clown,
 with a musket jappanned over with foot laid across
 his stooping shoulders. Since, therefore, the di-
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versions of gentlemen are descended to the vulgar—instead of marking gentility, they degrade it—and expose it to some ridicule, by such whimsical rencounters as I just now mentioned.

It is my way, when I want to know the nice point of propriety in any case, to look into the conduct of the ladies, in which I seldom miss finding something which directs me to it. And I cheerfully embrace this opportunity of mentioning it to the glory of the sex, that, where decency, and delicacy, and dignity of sentiment and behaviour are in question—they never fail to decide, with the most beautiful precision, on the right side. The rapid succession of their fashions in dress demonstrates how tenacious the ladies are of the characteristics of their rank, which are in hourly danger of being vulgarised by the too quick imitation of servile and mean females. Whenever this happens, they study a new dress—and thereby cut off all comparison between themselves and chamber-maids and cinder-winsches, now proud of inventions which their superiors have abandoned.

This behaviour of the ladies is truly noble and spirited; and the application of it to the present case is so obvious, that I need not enlarge on it.

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As they leave off the use of any fashion which the vanity of the lower part of the sex has invaded, gentlemen will see, that they ought to abstain from a diversion which has acquired an air of meanness from having fallen among the dregs of the people. Faulconry is ready to afford them an entertainment infinitely above what the pointer and gun can bestow; an entertainment becoming a gentleman; inaccessible to the populace; and productive of the highest luxury of sporting. Nor can gentlemen insinuate themselves so agreeably any other way, as by faulconry, into the good graces of the ladies, who are all fond of this ancient, noble, and delightful recreation.

It is my felicity to be known to several women, whose distinguished virtues are honourable to their sex, and ornamental to their rank, who favour the hawks with their presence, and regard their flights with the sprightliest admiration. From them the sports of the sky receive a delicate polish, and the most joyous vivacity. The hardy, nimble, sonorous faulconer, feels his sport most exhilarating and delightful, when refined gallantry prompts his endeavours to please female youth, beauty, and innocence. The ani-

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mated spring of his limbs, and the lively current of his blood, despise the chilling flood, the steep mountain, the craggy rock, the trembling bog, the prickly thicket, when his heart beats eager to shew the charmers the wonders of his art. Thus the ladies, wherever they appear, inspire an ambition for excellence; and their approving smiles richly reward every effort the men can make to entertain them.

The second consequence of the gun which I mentioned is, the destruction of the game; not indeed by gentlemen who have a legal title to the sports of the field, but by those who confer on themselves the honour of that appellation, and by inferior poachers. The illicit use of the gun is at present risen to such a daring pitch, that, unless the laws, wisely provided against it, be put in execution without mercy, there shall not, in a few years, be found a poult or partridge in the whole kingdom to draw a trigger or fly a hawk at. But neither this, nor the confusion of ranks, are the only bad consequences, though, to be sure, very deplorable, which are to be apprehended from the prevailing passion of all men for the gun. I look forward, with fear and anguish, to another consequence, before

fore which these must lose all their importance—I mean, the ruin of our happy constitution in both church and state, which Heaven avert! Shooting on wing trains up an incredible number of stout fellows to the knowledge of fire-arms, and to the love of idleness and low debauchery. From these there arises, in peaceable times, a constant succession of smugglers and robbers, to supply the places of those delinquents who are prematurely cut off by the immoderate use of brandy or of the gallows. Now, should it be the affliction of a distant posterity to be visited with a civil war, these rogues would not find it very difficult to advance to the top of their vocations, and commence open plunderers and professed cut-throats. They are not to be compared to the fair and honest foldier, who meets you on equal terms, who, while he seeks your life for the sake of public safety and justice, bravely ventures his own to your indignation. They, on the contrary, will attack your property in the defenceless hour of sleep, or shoot you from behind a bush, while you are enjoying the sweet serenity of a summer's morning in your night-gown and slippers.

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This consequence of poaching is, I confess, but a mere possibility at present—and am willing enough to join with every body in regarding it as a very chimerical one too. But still I cannot get it out of my head, that the causes which at last brought on the ruin of many empires and kingdoms, now to be found only in history, were at first no more than possibilities, as little dreaded as the one under consideration. Such, therefore, as are big with horrible calamities, cannot be too warily guarded against; nor will a wise nation, who have at heart the felicity of distant generations, look on them with indifference. People are too apt to read ancient history, without learning that small causes have often given origin to the most terrible revolutions in human affairs. Shooting on wing is, in the opinion of people of superficial reflection, productive of no other effect whatever than the death of a hare or of a bird, without ever extending their views to the awful consequences mentioned above. Thus, the man who plants trees little imagines that some one of the seedlings which he carries in his hand, may be destined to furnish the pillory or gibbet; on which his great grandson is to suffer ignominy or death. In the same manner,

manner, the man who gives his infant-son a dice-box to rattle for his amusement, is not aware that he may thereby infuse into his young heart a passion for gaming, which shall one day reduce him to beggary, to the high-way, and to the devil.

Since then poaching is ruinous to gentility, and to the game, and may be so to the nation also, the interests of falconry and of posterity call loudly for every man of weight and authority to suppress that enormity. Noblemen and gentlemen ought to encourage informations against poachers of all kinds, to bring them to immediate conviction, and make them feel the salutary rigour of the laws.

This procedure, and I observe with pleasure the spirit wherewith it is attended to in this county, will at once save the game from extermination, and posterity from the perdition which may be caused by an army of marksmen, always ready to start forth, as soon as rebellion shall sound her trumpet. Further, by wrenching the gun out of plebeian hands, and putting it into those of gentlemen alone, this engine will be divested of its present dishonour, and acquire an air of dignity. Then it may be used by those
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who either have no taste for falconry, or are unequal to the expence of that glorious diversion, or would throw the pleasure of variety into their sports.

I proceed now to lay before my kind and indulgent readers some particulars relative to falconry, which have been long hid from our sportsmen, either in the libraries of the curious, or in remote countries. I hope that, while he peruses the following stories, he will constantly reflect they bring to his knowledge matters which happened in times and places very different from his own. There is a versatility in the human imagination which always hurries on to change the situations of things, and to bestow on them new arrangements, which however it is restless till it have altered to others, that in their turn must yield to new successors. Hence it is, that the politics, manners, languages, learning, dress, cookery, buildings, sports, and opinions of our times, are so different from those which obtained among the ancients. There were many things common among them, which now seem so entirely opposite to our taste and practice, that we can hardly give credit to them; and, were it not for the authority of the writers who record them,

should

should be put on the long list of fables and romances. What I have remarked with regard to antiquity is to be applied to the present state of remote nations, which are, in numberless customs, as contrary to us as if they had existed fifty thousand years ago. The candid and intelligent reader will, therefore, grant it to be exceeding unfair, to argue the absurdity or impossibility of ancient or foreign fashions and events, from their opposition to what he sees in vogue among his own neighbours. Would it not be too rash a conclusion that, because the ancients had no smoke-jacks, they were unacquainted with roast-beef? or, because the Turks wear no hats, they go all bare-headed? While my reader avoids this sort of false criticism, he will not hesitate to give his hearty assent to the following narration;—but, if any thing appear too powerful for his belief, I encourage him to consult the authors whence it is extracted. I am not of the mind of your slanderous tattling gossips, who always pretend to be bound to conceal the names of the very good authorities on which they tell their venomous tales; when in fact they have not any better authority than their own diabolical imaginations to produce. No, no—where I dare not, or am
ashamed

ashamed to produce my authority, I shall ever more think it manly to suppress the darkling story, which even those who gave it do not chuse to acknowledge.

Here I might mention, to very good purpose, Nimrod and Esau, as the earliest sportsmen of whom we have any knowledge, in proof of the antiquity of sporting ; and, in order to confer on it that important value which the flux of time, even independent of every other consideration, is well known to bestow on families, as well as on books, medals, and statues.

When these gentlemen lived, the world was a good deal more than two thousand years old ; a tract of time in which the industrious could hardly fail to light on all the different sports of the field, which were their own serious business. It is true, a mighty deluge swept away out of the world all the human race, whose depravity rendered them unworthy of existing any longer on the face of the earth. None were saved except Noah and his family, whose virtues preserved them from the general devastation, to repopulate the desolate globe. They could not but have seen and understood the antediluvian diversions ; and these would sometimes enter into their conversations,
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and be learned thence by their children. If we may suppose they were acquainted with hound-hunting, or killing fowls with bow and arrow—there is no reason for denying them the knowledge of hawking. As animals of almost all kinds increase faster than men, these last, yet few in number, would be obliged to take every method to hinder the too quick multiplication of the former. One of these methods, very probably, was hawking—an amusement which, once invented, is so sublime and noble, that it would never fall into entire desuetude, and must therefore have descended, among the other sports of the field, to Nimrod and Esau, in whose hands it would lose none of its dignity. We cannot easily, at this distance of time, tell exactly at what period of the antideluvian world children gave the original hint of falconry, nor lay down the rules according to which the patriarchs trained their hawks. If the two pillars were extant, the one of brick, and the other of stone, on which Seth inscribed the prophecies of Adam, and the knowledge of his own days, for the edification of posterity, perhaps I should be able to throw some light on these curious and abstruse points. It cannot be imagined, without derogating from

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the character of that excellent and primæval gentleman, that he omitted falconry among the many sciences which found a place on his pillars; and it will ever be deplored by all genuine sportsmen, as an irreparable misfortune, that they were not able to withstand the corroding power of years. This loss would have been less severely felt, had Nimrod or Esau put pen to paper, and written, in their leisure-hours, treatises of falconry, containing their own practice, and that of their ancestors, for the instruction of future sportsmen. Since, however, the pillars of Seth are now perished, and we know of no books written by Nimrod or Esau, the reader will permit me to say, that the patriarchs, if they followed nature in their practice, must have trained their hawks nearly on the principles which are delivered in the ensuing treatise; and, if they did not follow nature, time has done little harm in depriving us of their blunders.

Hawking is not spoken of by any author, with precision, till the beginning of the ninth century, when Arambombamboberus reigned over the vast empire of Trebizond, and Nestorius flourished in poetry. Those who want to know more of this extraordinary prince, may gratify
their

their curiosity by consulting the authors who have written his history, when they have time to rummage any great library where they are preserved. It is well known that the finest collection of these authors on earth stands in the Grand Sultan's library ; and may be readily found, as they are on the same shelf with the complete copy of Livy, for a transcript of which Lewis XIV. offered an hundred thousand ducats. It is not as a sovereign, but as a sportsman, that I am to consider the Emperor Arambombamboberus, the character wherein he is also considered by the poet Nestorius, from whom * I shall transcribe his method of sporting. It is of no consequence to the unlearned to know the life of this poet ; and it would be affrontive to the learned to suppose they are ignorant of it. However, if any body is very curious to peruse it, they will obtain ample satisfaction from the famous Frederick van Bofs, to whom the world is indebted for an accurate and splendid edition of the

* The pronoun *I*, in this place, is to be understood of the translator of the following poem, not of the author.

the works of this sublime poet. He wrote on hunting, hawking, and fishing, in three several poems; and it is from the beginning of the second that the following translation is made, which I lay before the public, not as a critic, but as a falconer. I well know that a poet cannot be properly rendered into another language, but by another poet, of a temper and genius similar to his own; but I hope the learned reader will pass an indulgent eye over my mistakes, on account of my zeal to entertain him, and forbear to censure too severely a man who has spent most of his time in the field, for inelegancies of stile. There are some Greek expressions in this poet, about the sense of which I am in some doubt; and I should consider it as a great favour if the learned in that language would clear them up to me in private letters, with their usual tenderness and humanity. My errors, alas! flow not from obstinacy, but from weakness; and he is my friend who helps me to correct them.—Let us now attend to the poet!

“ The fields coursed o’er with horse, and hound, and horn, and the surrounding hills shaken from their deepest roots by thundering voices of the hunter-train—spurning the earth, and to the sky

sky ascending, aerial sports, I now prepare to
 sing. Propitious smile on my sublime attempt,
 and spreading out thy wings, O soaring goddess!
 from where Apollo pours the chearful day, to
 where he plunges in the briny wave, spring
 with me into the empyreal regions, and support
 my too adventurous flight. To my poetic eyes,
 O towering goddess, thy beauteous form present,
 arrayed as when thou issuest forth among assem-
 bled deities, who all in jovial mood neglect the
 care of universal nature; and seek to solace them-
 selves with the delights of faulconry, or on the
 lofty summit of Olympus, or on the frozen
 sides of Caucasus, or along Tempe's flowery
 plains. Yes! yes! I now behold thee majes-
 tic, thy head adorned with bonnet of a-
 zure dye, to which the ostrich has added his
 waving plumage, gorgeous—thy body appa-
 relled in vest and mantle short of liveliest green,
 at once displaying female elegance and manly vi-
 gour in sweet proportion blended—thy limbs
 encircled from the skirts of thy garments down
 to thy knees, in the colours of heaven's arch,
 duly mingled, are free to climb the mountain's
 brow, or fly through the windings of the vale
 —and on thy left hand sits erect the bird of
 mighty Jove, in conscious dignity, as sovereign
 of

of the feathered race, reigning wide from the abodes of men, up to thrones of the immortal gods.

“ The sun had just from the eastern gates of light burst forth, and his diverging beams streaked the scattered clouds with dazzling gold, and tinged the limpid dew on the mountain's top with the various lustre of all the gems which sparkle on the taper fingers of wealthy maidens, when the might of Arambombamboberus, Trebizond's dread and unconquerable monarch, issued from the lofty portal of his stately palace, to seek the pleasures of the princely sport, by flying at the bounding deer the impetuous king of birds. Arambombamboberus, whose bulk and strength would more than match the bulk and strength of ten heroes, bore in his hand an eagle, hatched in the frightful cliffs of the Monomotapian mountains, and in size proportionable to his imperial lord. Bold defiance flashed from his piercing eye, and death, in all its horrors, seemed prepared to spring from his massy beak and grasping talons, filling the various tribes that cut the yielding air with cowering dread, and tremendous even to human sight and power. His hood, lined with the softest velvet, was adorned with
bur-

burnished gold. From the top arose a tuft of seed pearls, pure as the dew on the bending grass, strung on silver threads ; and, from the gold below, shone a blaze of rubies, topazes, and diamonds, that Phoebus, in his meridian glory, might contemplate with envy and admiration. On his legs tinkled twenty silver bells, whose sounds, clear, loud, and melodious, emulated the music of the celestial spheres, and poured harmony over the listening country, to a compass of five miles around his flight, filling every mortal with ecstatic wonder and transport. With a collar of gold, stuck at equal distances with sharpest spikes of steel, his neck was armed ; and on his breast was fixed a plate of the same precious metal, where, amidst festoons of flowers admirably embossed, was seen Arambombamboberus's awful name. Thus fortified, he regarded with disdain the haggard eagles of Monomotapa that dared to encounter him in ethereal spaces, and made them, after the first onset, fly from his fierce impetuosity with rapid speed, astonishing the deafened world with their horrible shrieks. Such was the costly furniture of the imperial eagle, which, as he perched on his master's fist, reared his lotty head seven yards in height from
his

his pounces, and, by his hearkening attitude, seemed impatient for his prey.

“ The Trebizonian monarch, attended by an hundred and twenty falconers, swift of foot, and of lungs indefatigable, and also by three hundred and sixty youths to beat the cover, appeared among his joyous train in towering majesty—as a sturdy oak that has braved the rage of an hundred winters rears its spreading top above a plantation of young trees, the tender nurslings of a few summers. Away they hie to the field, two hundred sure-nosed spaniels traversing the grounds, and soon arrive at the destined scene of the sport, for which their eager hearts panted, impatient.

“ That day the winds had confined themselves to their caverns, all except the soft-breathing Zephyr, who gently shook the leaves of the trees, and curled the glassy surface of the pool with his tepid breezes; but too weak was Zephyr to lift into the air the vast weight of the imperial eagle, and give his far extending pinions room to play. Yet this unseasonable calm could not obstruct the Emperor’s pleasure; for what can resist the will supreme of the great A-rambombamboberus? This mighty prince had
ordered

ordered to be drawn to the field, by forty horses, a vast pair of bellows made of the hides of three hundred bullocks, which he had slain in hecatombs to Æolus the blustering tyrant of the tempests, at his accession 80 years before to the throne of the august Barkaranglamkingpinkodibodicus, the potent founder of the Trebizonian empire. These bellows, firm, close, and capacious, could, at any time, supply the place of the natural winds, and throw the atmosphere into all the confusion of the most utrageous storms; nor are they wanting who do not hesitate to aver, that they even gathered the clouds, and drew down overwhelming deluges of rain from the parched firmament.

“ The dogs had now, by their call, roused the timid herds of deer from their cover, and made them fly lighter than the breeze up and down the forest, seeking safety from the dangers with which they were attacked on every side. The air was at the same time darkened by flocks of birds which were pursued by three hundred hawks of noble cyries—just as when the wary crows, that have long frequented the ancient pines wherein some venerable castle is embosomed, descrying the aiming archer at a distance, rise up on hovering

ing wing in a sable cloud over their habitations, and in a twilight dim involve all objects underneath them. The hollowing of such a numerous train of falconers, the whooping of the youths who beat the cover, and the ringing of four hundred bells of shrillest sound, made the hills, the vales, and the all-surrounding vault of heaven, echo to each other, and animated the air with gleesome noise and uproar.

“The imperial bellows, bellows that not the mountain-cheeked Boreas might contend against, without the dread of seeing himself out-blasted, was now set up by an hundred men, and prepared to shew Æolus he was not god of all the winds, but held a jurisdiction over them, shared with the illustrious Arambombamboberus. This magnanimous potentate placed himself a furlong from the brazen muzzle of the prodigious machine, standing a little aside, to receive the full hurricane on the breast of his eagle, on which he was to rise with spread sails to the spacious sky. Thrice proclamation was made by the far-sounding voice of Arambombamboberus, that all the company should retreat behind the bellows, lest the blast should raise his brave falconers and assistants into the air, and, letting them afterwards fall,

Fall, dash them in pieces against the earth. No sooner did the well-known accents of their lord reach their ear, than, sensible of the danger of lingering behind, they all ran with utmost speed from the woods, and hills, and vales, whither their ardour for the sport had carried them, and, attended by their faithful dogs, soon arrived breathless, where the vast bulk of the bellows rose conspicuous to direct their steps. Thus, when the north-west wind obscures the meridian effulgence of the sun with blackening clouds, and moistens the air with chilly dampness shed from his fable wings, the laborious bees, prescious of the gathering storm, forsake the alluring sweetness of every flower, and with hollow murmurs, croud for shelter to their hives from the impending deluge, wisely preferring safety to voluptuousness. Arambombamboberus, looking round from his gigantic height, and seeing his men and dogs all secure, ordered, with a voice that never met with disobedience, the most vigorous hundred of his train to work the bellows, that his eagle, impatient for blood and sport, might poise himself in air, and scatter consternation throughout the hills and forests. Quick as the imperial mandate struck their ear, they seize, with sinewy hands,

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the long and massy levers wherewith the engine was wrought, and uniting all their force, unfolded its manly circling plies, and the numerous hinges of its frames creaked grating as they turned.

“ Now, with redoubled efforts and swelling muscles, they pull down the mighty levers, and streight a tempest bursts from the blows with hideous din, and rages with boundless fury over sea and land. Trees are torn from their roots, the standing corns are dissipated over the face of the earth, and a fleet of Smyrnian merchantmen are dashed against the pitiless rocks. Now the nymphs run up and down the mountains howling for their ruined shades; the husbandmen, with loud lamentations, implore from heaven their vanished hopes; and the sailors, whom the boisterous sea had spared to want and misery, bemoan their calamities in anguish and despair. This blast, so destructive to every thing else within its violence, no sooner reached the eagle’s breast, than his lord, with a quick hand, struck his hood, and gave him to behold the refulgent beams of Phœbus, which his race alone can eye with steady gaze. The mighty bird, posterity will doubt of the wondrous truth! expanded his
long

long wings, full fifteen yards, and, mounting on the artificial storm, soon got to a height from which he commanded a view, not of the Trebizonian realms only, but also of half the spacious globe. Happy in being restored to liberty, and to the blessed light of day, he expressed the satisfaction of his heart in playful gyrations which encompassed a thousand kingdoms, now gliding serene on his motionless pinions, and then cutting his lofty way through the air, out-thundering the voice of Jove at every stroke of his wings.

“But bloodless flight could not long rejoice the high-spirited bird, thirsting for conquest and renown. He darted his far-seeing eyes downwards, and beheld, among the swift inhabitants of the forest, a buck, whose sleek coat, swelling haunches, and branching horns, tempted his gorge, and provoked his valour to seize him as his prey. Meanwhile the multitude of falconers and assistants, but chiefly the towering Arambombamboberus, whose voice alone he obeyed, gazed on his wheelings and traversing through the air with high admiration and loud applause, and were racked with impatience to see him exert his vast strength and undaunted courage. Nor did

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did they wait long ; for, contracting his wings, and clapping them almost close to his sides, he shot obliquely through the air, quick—as a meteor darts across the starry heavens, when the moon denies her glare to benighted mortals—and, in his rapid career, seizing the buck, that little dreamed his fate was so near, he, with loud-reverberating wing, soon regained his former height, exulting in his prowess and success. The Trebezonian eagles, of which he had sacrificed many to his wanton cruelty, descrying him thus burdened with his prey, would take this opportunity of avenging on him the blood of their kindred, by assailing him in a condition which they fondly imagined would make him yield to their combined strength, and give up a life which continually threatened their own destruction.

“ Infatuated birds, and doomed to multiply the triumphs of the Monomotapian eagle ! As whizzes through the gloomy sky the blast which preceeds the rolling thunder, and startles the thoughtful traveller—so were heard the sounding wings of many a wrathful eagle, flying to pour its hottest vengeance on the common tyrant of the air. The battle was maintained on both sides, at first, with almost equal advantage ;
but

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but the eagles increased so fast in number, and fought with so much impetuosity, that the event became doubtful to mortal eyes. And now the monarch trembled for his bird, lest, overpowered by so great an army of enraged foes, he should receive the stroke of death, and fall down at his feet a lifeless carcase. But Jove, the venerable fire of gods and men, placing the furious combatants in the eternal scales of fate, had adjudged the victory to the mighty bird of Africa, which weighed down all his enemies, as a rock out-weighs the pebble that is polished by the murmuring brook. The eagle of Arambombamboberus held his prey in one foot, and fought with the other as long as he could; but his adversaries pressing thicker and bolder on him, he retreated, defending himself till he was over the place where his master was an anxious spectator of the engagement, and then dropt the buck hard by him in token of his love and homage to his protector. They, perceiving him to yield, thought the day their own; and the cowards, which had hovered about the skirts of the combat, now flocked to the pursuit, in order to share in the glory of a victory which they had done nothing to

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to gain. But the imperial bird, now free from every incumbrance, sprang, keen as the gleam of lightening, into the hottest of the battle, sending, at every stroke of his talons, one of his foes shrieking to the shades below, to bemoan the folly of waging such unequal war. In vain they tried to tear his neck and gorge, which were defended by his collar and breast-plate;—by the rash attempt, they only put themselves within his reach, whence no creature worthy of his resentment, or proper to assuage his hunger, ever escaped with life. As thick as fall the flakes of snow on the Heperborean mountains, where rein-deer, secure from the Monomotapian eagle's ravenous gorge, transport the traveller sudden as the illusion of a dream o'er the frozen surface—so thick fell the carcases of the Trebizonian eagles from the sky, and strewed the fields with ghastly images of death. The remaining few, struck with a panic by the fate of their unhappy friends, sought safety in speedy flight, and winged their way, full of mingled sorrow and revenge, to hide their heads in their native rocks. The eagle of Arambombamboberus, left master of the sky, wheeled round the plains of war thrice, in token of his victory; and then, lured by a buck's head held

held up to him by the monarch, he darted immediately down to his hand, and received the recompence and applause he had so nobly won by his spirit and bravery."

This poem I have translated as faithfully as my knowledge of the original Greek would give me leave; and if this attempt, with all the faults of it, which men of brighter parts than mine will readily discover, shall prompt some able hand to publish Nestorius in a poetical dress to the world, I will indulge the vanity of regarding my pains as not useless to public entertainment. If my brother sportsmen receive a pleasure from this extract equal to what I have always derived from it, there is no doubt but that some one of them, in whom a liberal education has given the last polish to a fine genius, will gratify his unlearned brethren with an elegant version of the whole. The man must be of a phlegmatic constitution whose soul would not open to the raptures arising from the grand ideas of an extensive country, diversified into swelling hills covered with forests; into winding vallies divided by rivulets shaded with trees; into opening plains, where villages and arable grounds, and irregular hedges, interspersed with

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standards,

standards, amuse the eye, and where the prospect is terminated by rocks and mountains, rising beyond each other in wild and awful confusion, till the blue mists, gently ascending from them, blend their vanishing tops with the sky. Then add to these the raptures flowing from the ideas of such a vast train of falconers and assistants, under the command, and animated to exert their best abilities by the presence of the gigantic Arambombamboberus; himself keen in the enjoyment of the princely diversion, and ready to pour out his liberalities on such as distinguished themselves by their chearfulness, dexterity, and spirit. Then to think of such a great number of dogs, springing game at every step to two hundred hawks, circling through the air, and eager to attack the fowls as fast as they rose from the thickets.—Then the battle of the eagles, where was seen all the variety of stratagem and fury which the noblest of birds could display against the largest of their race.—Then the varying passions, and exclamations, and gestures of the beholders, according to the different turns of the combat, and their different interests in the opposite sides.—Heavens! it is impossible to call up so glorious a scene in the imagination,

gination, without feeling all the transporting raptures, which the sublimest sport is capable of inspiring—these ideas are full of the most exalted enthusiasm.

I proceed further to lay before the reader the state of falconry in Persia and Hindostan, as it was in the days of the sapient and anecdotal Abul'farage, who has given us the following account of it. This writer was, about the beginning of the thirteenth century, born in Malatiah, a city near the source of the Euphrates, and flourished in physic, theology, and history; but it is to the last that he owes his renown. Every body who has read his works in the proper edition must know, that the Sophi of Persia, as well as Arambombamboberus, kills deer by his hawks, hawks of egregious strength and bulk. "This monarch," says Abul, "of illustrious pedigree, disdainng groveling pastimes, pursues the princely diversions of the sky, exalted as his high station, and towering as his glorious soul. The way of training hawks to deer in Persia is easy and natural, and may be followed by any person who possesses a deer-park. For this purpose the Sophi's falconers employ a wooden lure, made exactly into the form of a deer's head, covered neatly with

with the skin stripped off the head of that animal, and adorned with a pair of comely horns. Between these, and under the skin, is first, a thin cushion, on which they place the hawk, and wherein she sinks her pounces; and the sockets of the eyes below are filled with the eyes of bulls, horses, cows, camels, or of any other large creatures. They teach the hawk to fly to this lure; and, as she stands between the horns, to bend down her head, and tear out with her beak the eyes that are crammed in the sockets. But, in order to accustom the bird to bear the motions of the deer, which are exceeding violent, when the creature feels his eyes attacked, they jog the lure gently at first, while she feeds on it, and gradually accelerate the concussions to the utmost quickness. When they have brought her to bear all the disturbance they can give her by the strength of their arms, they fix the lure on the circumference of a wheel, which at the beginning they turn softly, in contrary directions, and proceed gradually to the most sudden jerks. This is the most difficult and severe part of the training of their hawks, and most of them are killed by it; but a hawk which gets safe through it, will keep her balance amidst the
most

most irregular shocks any deer can give her. A hawk bred to this perfection is accordingly above all price, and the richest present in the power of the Sophi to make to his best esteemed allies. He receives it himself from his principal falconer with the highest pomp and exultation, and his subjects enter into his satisfaction with the sincerest and most sensible demonstrations of joy.

“ O how generous and cordial are your inferiors to you ! ye great, whom birth or accident, as often as merit, places on the luminous summits of life, and entitles to indulgence and respect ! How solitary and insipid were your enjoyments, did they not render them social, and exhilarating, and poignant by their smiles and participation ! This chearful concurrence of theirs with your felicity, constitutes them your best friends and benefactors, and gives them a claim to your most active gratitude—which your hearts, dissipated by their kindnesses, often forget to acknowledge. Yes, you are dependent on those among whom you stand so eminent, and bound to return to their bosoms some enlivening drops of that chearfulness and festivity which they pour without measure into yours. May therefore peevishness everlasting

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lasting tear the soul, and gloominess everlasting darken the visage of the poultry wretch of opulence and distinction, who, with unaccommodating frowns of aspect, censures and damps the harmless mirth of his inferiors, who seek oblivion of their toils and anxieties in gait, jest, and copious laughter! Thus prayeth most devoutly Gregorius Abul'favage Ebn Aaron Ebn Hoci-ma."

The readiness of the lower ranks of men to go along with the happiness of their superiors, is strikingly exemplified in the conduct of the Persians, whenever their monarch receives a high-bred hawk; and I shall describe it for the amusement of such as were never in Persia upon these grand occasions. The Great Falconer of the Crown, having bred a hawk to full perfection, dresses himself in the richest apparel, over which he throws the magnificent badges of his office, and walks, accompanied with all his inferior officers, to present it to his sovereign. The Sophi, advertised of his coming, receives him sitting on his throne, which is surrounded with many a prostrate lord, and takes the noble bird on his fist, where he surveys her with looks of joyous satisfaction. The moment his smiles announce his felicity, the
royal

royal palace resounds with a concert of violins, hautboys, clarinets, trumpets, bassoons, flutes, and kettle-drums—in which the calls and hollowings of falconers are artfully interwoven with the music, and expressed with surprising liveliness by the instruments. The nobles about the throne then rise up, and copy into their own faces, the alacrity which brightens and endears that of the prince; and each of them having admired and praised the wonderful hawk according their rank, the last returns it to the Great Falconer. Then they offer his Majesty their humble felicitations on the fortunate event, and pray that every hour may dance onward to him, scattering such, and greater instances of good fortune. How great does every trifle appear when it is connected with a great man? He himself grows blind to its real insignificance, and thinks it as important as the unconcerned part of the world know it to be frivolous, by his viewing it continually in the flattery of those who find their interest in multiplying the number of his agreeable dreams. The value of most things depends on the light and situation wherein they are viewed, not on what they are in themselves—at least with regard to the Sophi's hawk, this is the case. The ceremony

remony of presenting the hawk being ended; with infinite delight to every mortal who shared in the honour of it, the first secretary of state dispatches couriers to every part of the monarchy to inform the liegés of the inestimable acquisition made by their sovereign, that they mingle their joys with his. This news fires the loyalty of the different provinces, straight—and they delay not a moment to send ambassadors, who have approved wisdom and discretion in making bows and compliments, to congratulate his Majesty on this immense addition to his royal bliss. Universal mirth prevails over the Persian dominions, demonstrated by bonfires, illuminations, volleys, carousals, and feasts—feasts, not of your ordinary cookery, but where you shall see twenty different dishes of opium dressed with laudanum and poppy sauce. Every mortal who can afford it is now arrayed in a new suit of green, with the image of a hawk set with carbuncles fixed on the tip of the nose; and the poor, to come as near their betters as they can, stitch on their rags such an enormous quantity of grass and leaves, that they resemble so many moving loads of hay. The bashfulness of virgins, the reserve of matrons, the solemnity of judges, the reverence

of

hornpipes and strathspeys. The citizens of Ifpahan are all so light, so brisk, so airy, that a single face of tolerable seriousness could not be purchased among them for ready gold.—A stranger would swear these good people had sold themselves to folly and madness. They trip along the streets on their tiptoes with infinite vivacity—and then they snap it with their fingers so chearily to their own private hummings and whistlings! Nor is the country a jot behind the town in the extravagance of joy on this season of festivity—the nymphs and swains gamboling and frolicking on the green to the shrill wild notes of the bag-pipe, or to the sweet and melodious tinklings of the harp. Now many a courtship is begun—and many a courtship is complicated—and, alas! many a simple milkmaid is qualified in the silent grove to complain of flattering, faithless, and inconstant man—and many a lover laughs at the levity of his mistress, and finds happiness in another charmer.

These rejoicings continue nine days; and on the tenth the Sophi, in his royal robes, and attended by all his court, rides on an Arabian courser, with furniture of green velvet curiously embroidered

embroidered with hawks, to the beautiful plain of Maluvancira ; where he is received amidst the loud acclamations of thousands of his subjects, assembled from all the provinces of the empire, to see the ceremony of swearing fidelity to the royal hawk solemnized. The prince alights from his horse, and passes through the ranks of his guards, to a glorious throne of the finest workmanship, on which he deliberately places his royal body. As soon as he is seated, he is enclosed by his nobles ; and, verily, it is a comely sight to behold a golden hawk and carbuncles, with spread wings, nodding on the tip of every nose ; but that on the imperial nose is composed of a variety of precious stones, artfully cemented together, which represent the natural colours of the feathers. Now the Great Faulconer advances, tall, erect, and firm, and, placing the hawk on the top of the sceptre, pronounces a learned harangue on the excellence of faulconry in general ; but expatiates in particular on the high qualities of the bird which he had the honour to present to his sovereign lord. He ends his oration with a solemn and confidential wish, that the dominion of the hawk may be as extensive

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extensive and absolute over the forests of deer as that of the sceptre whereon it sits is over the Persian realms! Then the Sophi, holding out the hawk, orders him to lay the forefinger of the right hand under its pounces, and swear the following oath: "I Pashur Mirzah Kobby Mottaleb Fulman, Great Faulconer of Persia, do swear by the beard of the Sophi, by the pounces of the hawk, and by Tebadar Sazed her guardian angel, that I shall be her true and faithful slave, providing her, to the best of my knowledge and believe, in the most wholesome food, and most entertaining sport. But, if I shall at any time so far neglect my charge, as that she may in the least suffer by my carelessness, may I become the victim of her vengeance in this world, and drop at the last day from the narrow bridge into the blue flaming billows, which boil for the torture of all slothful and heedless faulconers." This oath is afterwards administered to all the under-faulconers and other officers of the royal mews, such alterations being made in the form as their respective posts render necessary and proper. Then he who is appointed body-physician to the hawk, cometh forward, with a right grave, solemn

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lemn step ; and, having undergone an examination on all the diseases and cures of hawks, he is also sworn into his place.

Whilst this ceremony lasts, not a cough or whisper is heard to disturb the still attention which is so suitable to its awfulness and dignity. The eager curiosity of the whole multitude is centered in it, every mortal stretching out his neck, and darting piercing looks to the important scene. You might in this calm hear the softest down of a feather fall to the earth. The ceremony being finished, the onlookers are dismissed by the sound of trumpets, who, as they go away, with, in pealing exclamations, the Sophi many such hawks, and an endless reign to enjoy them.

This potentate flies these noble birds in vast forests well stocked with deer, which they attack with incredible impetuosity. As soon as they descry their prey from the heights of air, they stoop on it with the rapidity of lightning, and, taking their station between its horns, aim directly at its eyes. The creature, finding itself thus assailed, runs, and bounds, and tosses its head, in order to shake off its enemy ; but the well
trained

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trained hawk keeps her hold amidst all these agitations, as little molested by them as if she were a part of the animal itself. At last, she not only tears out the eyes, but penetrates even to the brains; and it is the amusement of the spectators to mark the varying turns of the struggle between the deer and the hawk, till the former is killed.

Nothing can exceed the care and assiduity wherewith the falconers and physicians look after the royal hawks; for the penalty of their oath, whatever may be their fate in the next world, is inflicted with the utmost severity, as far as it regards the present. If it appear that the loss or death of any of these birds is occasioned by their negligence, the offender is fowed up in deers skins, with horns fixed to his head, and thus turned out to the rage of the hawks. These, mistaking the disguised criminal for a deer, fly at him with their usual fierceness, pull out his eyes, and put him to the most excruciating death. The dread of this horrible fate renders the officers of the royal mews remarkably attentive and skilful in their duty, and guards the hawks from perishing by any ailment except old age.

The

The attachment of the Sophi for falconry is equalled by that of his Ottoman Highness, who does great honour to the princely sport. This monarch maintains, at a very high expence, a train of * six thousand falconers. The lovers of calculation will thence be enabled to form an idea of the wealth of this prince, as well as of his affection for the sports of the sky. Each falconer is able enough to take care of three hawks; and these require three spaniels to spring game, and six lads to beat the covers. Multiply these numbers then by the number of falconers, and you will see, that the august protector of Mahomet's religion has in his pay forty-two thousand men in all—in his mews eighteen thousand hawks—and in his kennels the same number of spaniels. The subsistence of one falconer, six lads, three hawks, and as many spaniels, is cheap at nine shillings a day. The product of this moderate sum multiplied by the number of falconers, amounts only to two thousand seven hundred pounds sterling a day. Multiply this daily

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* The curious reader will find this fact also in Chambers's Dictionary.

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expence by the days of a year, and you will plainly discover, that the commander of the faithful annually lays out nine hundred and eighty-five thousand and five hundred pounds. This is, without doubt, a considerable deal of money; but I could have made the sum much higher, had I thrown into it the splendid appointments of the officers of the train. As exaggeration, however, has always been my utter aversion, I have forbore to swell the accompt with this additional expence; and from the same principle, I shall not be angry at any gentleman who may think fit to cut away from the total the odd eighty-five thousand and five hundred pounds.

The great expence of the Grand Signior's train of falconers would merit no credit; were we not certain, that he can command the wealth of many kingdoms to supply it. The bow-string is to him a source of more wealth than the King of Spain draws from Mexico and Peru, and much more within his reach. Besides his fair and established revenues, he squeezes immense sums from the bashaws for their governments;—they, in their turn, squeeze the people, in order to reimburse themselves;—and he, afterwards,
puts

puts an end to the lives of these inferior oppressors for the sake of their treasures. Thus, justice gives him possession of a part of the wealth of his subjects for the support of his government ; and he employs tyranny and cruelty to get into his hands the greater part of the remainder. To those, therefore, who consider his wealth, it will not appear extraordinary, that he spends a few hundred thousand pounds on the manly pleasure of hawking.

On grand hawking-days, this prince cannot have in his retinue fewer than seventy or eighty thousand souls, if we add to the falconers and their assistants, the guards, and bashaws, and spectators who will attend him. But he seldom goes to the field in all this glory and magnificence; nor is it indeed solely or chiefly for his own private amusement that he maintains such a numerous train of sportsmen. He keeps them principally with a view to the prosperity of his empire, which they advance very essentially in a way which will amaze those who are not acquainted with it already.

Every body has heard, with admiration, of the
fierce impetuosity wherewith the Janizaries
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charge their enemies in battle. But it is a piece of information to, perhaps, most people, that these troops owe their egregious bravery to the virtue of five falcon eggs which each man takes twice a week to breakfast in time of war. Hawks are, of all the feathered tribes, the most undaunted and enterprising; and these heroic qualities they communicate to those who eat their eggs. It is superfluous to prove, to such as know the wonderful effects of beef on the British soldiery, that the fearlessness of the mind is sometimes created, and always promoted, by the excellence of the food which is taken into the body. Fill the most timid coward who ever shrunk from the face of danger——fill him with roast-beef and strong-beer, and he will run up to a battery of cannon in the hottest fire.

The Turks have two sorts of falcon-eggs for inspiriting their Janizaries. The one sort is produced by falcons which are fed on ordinary food, and the other by falcons which are fed on extraordinary food. The first sort is allotted to men who possess that share of courage with which nature endues the generality of mankind; but the last

last is assigned to your constitutional cowards—
As for native heroes, they eat neither fort.

It may be asked, from a very reasonable curiosity, By what method do the Turks discover the different tempers of their soldiers, so as to adapt the eggs to each man's state of mind? This question merits an answer, and I shall give it before I proceed any further. You must know, that in each regiment of Janizaries, there are established six aged philosophers, deeply experienced in all the modifications of the human heart, into whose hands are put all the young officers and recruits. These philosophers, to the most piercing sagacity, join the most winning candour of heart, and sweetness of manners, and thereby soon insinuate themselves into the love and confidence of those who are placed under their inspection. As they are persons of the most scrupulous and benevolent discretion, and left to perform the duties of their office in the way which their own wisdom determines to be best, without fear of censure—the youth committed to their security are under no apprehensions of having the weak parts of their characters exposed to the world. Besides, were they once found guilty of
such

such ridiculous folly, and unnecessary cruelty, they would be turned with ignominy out of their places ;—for the Turks are such odd mortals, as to reckon back-biting a certain mark of cowardice ; and they hate cowardice worse than the devil. The great aim of these sages is, to discover the natural and prevailing bent of the young men ; and, that they may the more easily find it out, they allow them to act in whatever way they please, in all places, and on all emergencies, knowing that restraint and austerity more frequently teach them to disguise than to correct their passions. By this simple method, they soon arrive at the knowledge of the different dispositions of the juvenile candidates for military fame, and give them such eggs as are suited to their dispositions.

Thus, if a young officer or recruit takes pleasure in learning the use of his arms, and keeps them bright and in fighting order——if he obeys his superior with smiling alacrity, and is beloved by all his comrades——if he never provokes a quarrel, nor ever tamely submits to an avowed affront——this character ranks him among men of genuine spirit and courage. But if, on the

the contrary, he is found to delight in a pert challenging arrangement of features—to affect stately, overbearing, and neglectful manners—to be boasting, vain-glorious, and valorous in conversation—to listen to defamatory insinuations, and to be learned in slanderous anecdotes—to treat his inferiors with abusive acrimony, and his superiors with cringing flattery—to be covetous, niggardly, and curmudgeonly—in short, to be very full of himself, and very disdainful to all who would not chuse to oppose him—our philosophers declare a man of this silly disposition, a coward of the lowest and most despicable order. Here I must observe, that they do not pass judgment on the whole character from single or occasional indications of heroism or pusillanimity, but from the general train of it ; there being moments when a hero sinks into a coward, and when a coward feels himself a hero—to his utter astonishment.

I now proceed to explain the way by which the Turks obtain the necessary quantity of eggs, and how they prepare them. The immense number of falconers and assistants, whom I have already mentioned, are cantoned out among the mountains,

mountains, and rocky provinces of the empire, to gather falcon eggs during the summer, and to put the cyries into proper order the rest of the year. That long flights for food may not fatigue and disable the hawks for laying, great droves of dogs are sent from every quarter of the empire to the desarts, where they are killed, and distributed in pieces at midnight to all the cyries. By this œconomy, the falcons hardly ever stir out, except when their health calls for exercise ; and so being vigorous, they lay, each of them, an egg a day. They are, at the beginning of the season, permitted to lay four or five eggs without being robbed ; but, every day after, the falconers rob each ery of a single egg. The birds, prompted by nature, continue laying, in order to compleat the number at which they hatch, and these people continue their robberies, in order to delay the completion of that number. But, when they perceive the birds growing weak, and the season far gone, they allow them to lay the full number to which instinct directs them for the preservation of their breed. In that warm climate, falcons seldom lay fewer than seven or eight eggs ; whereas, in the colder regions

gions of the north, they never produce more than two, or three, or four. As soon as falconers take the eggs from the nests, they dip them in melted wax, of which they receive a coat that excludes the air, and saves them from putrefaction. These are the sort of eggs which are appointed for men of ordinary spirit, with a view to exalt them into heroes.

But there is another sort, as I have already mentioned, which is prepared for the sole use of natural cowards in the following manner: The tick is a small animal, of a dark colour, flat body, and sharp snout, which it sinks into the skin of men or dogs. There it remains immovable, sucking nutritious juices, causing a painful itching, till it swells to the size of a chestnut, and then falls off, changed into a dirty whitish hue. These insects are found in great numbers on the grass and low shrubs; and the falconers collect them by lying naked on the ground, from which they creep in multitudes on their bodies. They brush them immediately off, before they fix themselves, into a large vessel of white china-ware, and thence gather them into a cup filled with the lees of wine. Here their appearance

ance rises imperceptibly to a bright flaming red ; their motions grow amazingly irregular and violent ; and at length they emit a very delicate sound, which, by laying your ear close to the cup, you may hear distinctly, sometimes like tender, sometimes like gleeſome, and sometimes like martial muſic. This ſound informs the falconers that the infects have reached the laſt ſtage of madneſs ; at which they take them out of the cup, and fix them, one on each dog, placing them on the veins under the tongue, which, on account of their ſoftneſs, are eaſily penetrated, and readily admit the poiſon. The dogs, when they feel the bite, jump, and friſk, and gambol up and down their incloſures, all life and joy ; but, on the third day, when they always look heavy and ſtupid, the falconers give each of them three drops of the gall of a fiery ſerpent, and a ſpeck of the wax which excretes from the ear of a female harpy, both diſſolved in fair water. The bite of the tick naturally brings on madneſs ; but this compoſition throws the body into an univerſal trembling, deprives the limbs of life and motion, and cauſes the teeth to fall out. The venom of the infect is produced by
inebriation,

inebriation, and it acts so nicely in concert with the mixed gall and wax—that the madness into which it throws the dogs is immediately succeeded by death. It is by this method that no harm ever arises to any creature from the fury of the dogs, which would otherwise bite the whole country into a frenzy. These dogs are instantly cut in pieces, and distributed, 'as were the former, among the eyries, for the production of the most sublimating eggs.

When you consider the food of the birds which lay these wonderful eggs, you will not doubt of their power to light up in the breast of even cowardice itself the intrepidity of a hero. This must be the effect, when the honest fidelity of the dog, and the bloody perseverance of the tick, both stimulated to the keenest madness by the spirit of the grape, are joined to the hot ferocity of the falcon, and all concentrated into one luminous flame of magnanimity within her egg. And, indeed, experience makes it evident, that, from an egg of this sort, there passes into the blood of those who eat it, such a glorious assemblage of heroic qualities, as enables them to look smiling on the most dreadful perils. It

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swells their imaginations with the loftiest ideas of magnanimity and public spirit, and empties them of all selfish regards for their own private concerns and preservation. They part for the battle when their country is in danger, and exult at the sight of that danger——because bravely to encounter it covers them with glory, whether they fall in the conflict or survive it. Their souls expand, heroic, as the various turns of the engagement glide before their enraptured fancy, and give them the noblest opportunity of signifying their generous ardour, and steady resolution. They soar on wings of conscious dignity, when they look forward to the splendour with which their exploits shall blaze in the eyes of admiring posterity, and anticipate the applauses with which their names shall be honoured by future poets and historians. Their sole dread is, the dishonour of yielding to a foe who menaces their sovereign, their country, their religion, with perdition; and, when the weapons of death terminate their glorious career in the combat, they breathe out their undaunted souls with ecstatic joy——able to die for such great and interesting objects, but not to live by deserting them.

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It is well known, that duelling never took place among the Turks. They look on it as the consummation of human folly, to repair honour, or to determine between right and wrong, by the blood of one or other of two persons who chance to fall into an unpremeditated quarrel. They cannot conceive how a man becomes a liar, or a villain, or a scoundrel, by receiving these titles from a fellow who has effrontery enough to bestow them; nor how he is transformed into a coward, by shewing himself too magnanimous to set himself on a level with a wrong-headed fool. They are equally at a loss to point out, whence arises the propensity of the world to arrange themselves on his side who is so barbarous and stupid as to think it bravery to expose either another or himself to the chance of being murdered, for the sake of a difference which, in even their own opinion, might be more rationally adjusted. They feel themselves groping in the dark, when they endeavour to comprehend, why two men are trained and supported by their country, for its defence against the violence and inroads of its enemies, shall be reckoned men of honour in fighting against each other, when it is evident, that the
public

public is defrauded by the death of either, to the amount of their former subsistence. They have heard of the positive laws against single combat, and are amazed that the concurrence of madmen in favour of that absurd custom should render them ineffectual; but, at the same time, they compassionate every man of genuine sense and bravery, whom the insolence of a considerable fool lays under the hard necessity of either drawing his sword against a bundle of pride, indiscretion, and ill temper, or of forfeiting his character in the public opinion. By what turn of mind the Turks are so much puzzled in considering the subject of duelling, whether by their sense or stupidity, is a point too sublime for me to determine; but of this I pretend to be certain, that they condemn the practice unanimously, and declare, that a man is obliged to preserve his life for the benefit of his country, and religion, and sovereign, and for their sake only to lay it down. This way of thinking, which they indulge against duelling, is the consequence of the use which the troops make of falcon eggs; whereby they are all rendered so brave, that they need not fight their own country-men to establish this character, and

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and so haughty, that they think a fellow below their notice, whose insolence cannot be otherwise repressed.

But, though the eggs under consideration are in general of the highest advantage to the Turkish empire, instances may be produced, wherein they appear to have been perverted to the worst purposes. Those who are skilled in the history of Ottoman princes will recollect several instances of this nature, and, among the rest, that of the murder of Ebn Abdolmoldallah Ebn Schiraz, one of the best Mufti's who ever taught mussulmen the way to heaven. A scarcity of falcon eggs having happened in the reign of the emperor who advanced this worthy Mufti to his dignity, the Janizaries laid this calamity to his Majesty's charge, and on that account deprived him of his crown and life. This horrible treason pointed out the danger of feeding these troops any longer with falcon eggs; and accordingly, a plan was concerted in the next reign to take this food from them altogether. The only legal obstacle to the execution of the plan, was a passage of the Koran, wherein the right of the Janizaries to falcon eggs was plainly founded, and that the
Mufti

Mufti was obliged to explain away. The imperial command was signified to him with all solemnity ; and he well knew, he must either obey it, or submit to the bow-string. He chose obedience as the safest measure, and forced his conscience and orthodoxy to bend to the authority of his sovereign. Accordingly, he prepared a laboured discourse on this subject ; and, on an appointed day, the Emperor, attended by his court, and all the Janizaries, came to hear him deliver it. He declaimed with much warmth and eloquence against the use of the eggs in question, from the fury into which ~~they~~ inflamed the eaters ;—he shewed, by the concurrent judgement of the most solid and grave commentators, that these eggs were originally intended only to Mohamed's own soldiers ;—and he made it appear, that the money which these eggs cost might be laid out much better in building and endowing mosques and hospitals. His discourse being finished, he declared with an audible voice, falcon eggs to be incentives to high treason, and every Janizary to be an enemy to his prince and country who should hereafter taste them. Then he promised all the various joys of paradise to those who lived up to the spirit of this
decla-

declaration ; but threatened the wretches with the bitterest of hell's torments who transgressed it. When it was ended, the Emperor and all his courtiers rose up, with a holy and exemplary air of devotion, and said, Amen ! after the venerable Mufti, who was greatly edified by this attention to religion in such great men.

But the declaration was by no means as acceptable to the Janizaries as it was to their monarch and his attendants. They were exasperated, that a resolution was taken to rob them of their favourite breakfast ; but their patience could hold no longer, when they reflected, that an old priest, who had no right to meddle in their affairs, pronounced the injurious sentence. Fury boiling in their hearts, quaked in every joint, reddened in their eyes, gnashed in their teeth, and made them tear their mustachoes with violent hands. The Sultan and his retinue, who well understood the meaning of these signs, retired in an order wherein more attention was paid to speed than is consistent with the solemn dignity of an imperial procession. The impious Janizaries, now freed from every shadow of restraint, flew on the holy man, and, after treating him with the cruel-
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est insolence, were just going to impale him alive—when he begged a moment's audience. After some altercation with one another, they agreed to his request, assigning this piece of inhuman raiery as the reason of their compliance—that they had never heard the dying words of a Mufti, and did not know but they might be more diverting than any he ever spoke in his life. Silence being ordered, the venerable saint addressed them in the following speech: “You are going to shed my blood, O ye Janizaries, because I dissuaded you from faulcon eggs for the good of your country. But I predict, that, the instant I am arrived in paradise, a curse from our great Prophet will begin to operate on your bands, and produce its full effect after many revolving years. Hawks will henceforth decrease in the empire—and at length totally abandon it, flying towards that point of the heavens where the sun is never seen, and invigorating with their eggs a nation, which is one day to shake our empire to the very centre. Then shall ye, O ye Janizaries, in your successors, turn your timid backs to the sword of your enemies, as doth a pigeon to the terrors of the ravenous eagle.” They could contain

tain their fury no longer, and immediately inflicted on him every barbarity their relentless hearts could think of. His murder, however, and that of his master, has rendered every succeeding Mufti very orthodox on the egg-text, and every succeeding emperor very attentive to the egg-magazines.

The hidden spring of these violent disturbances was supposed, not without good reason, to be Sepher Ebn Shamgar Ebn Mourli—a priest of the most insatiable ambition, which he concealed and promoted under the most sanctimonious veneration for orthodoxy. This man's countenance was, in public, beclouded with austerity and moroseness; his words flowed in censorious advices, or bitter invectives; and his heart was wrapt in cunning, trick, and hypocrisy. He flattered the former emperor, who saw into his worthlessness and interested views, in hopes of obtaining the Muftiship; but he flattered him in vain, and, on that account, secretly employed the famine of falcon eggs, which fell out soon after, to inflame the Janizaries to a rebellion, which was but too successful. His rival was now the object of his lurking rancour and fury; and he

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watched for an opportunity to sacrifice him to his disappointed and exasperated ambition. The fame of his extraordinary piety and devotion had been published in the seraglio by the holy tongues of milliners and seamstresses, who managed the necessary business of the sultaneesses in the city; and his very advanced age procured him access to that serene abode of beauty, in order to give lectures of conjugal fidelity, and ghostly comfort to the charming captives. He soon opened a path to himself, by means of their superstition, into their very souls, from which he drew the quickest and most certain intelligence of every thing that was decreed in the divan; and, among other resolutions, that of depriving the Janizaries of their falcon eggs, by a declaration of the Mufti. This secret deluged his heart with joy. He immediately began to practise on these troops, and soon prepared them for perpetrating that sacrilegious murder, which paved the way for his own advancement to the highest ecclesiastical dignity of the empire. With this he was solemnly invested, the same day his rival went to paradise, at the seditious and menacing request of the Janizaries, to whose outrageous importunity the

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Emperor durst not give a refusal.—This short detail seemed necessary to explain the former transactions, and therefore have I given it.

Which of these two priests was the best man, is evident, not only from their history, but still more strikingly from the war which flamed so lately between the Russians and the Turks, and is not yet extinguished. It is no secret, that faulcons are now much scarcer in Turkey, and much plentier in Russia, than they were formerly; nor, that the northern armies have the eggs of these birds in great abundance, while the musselmen are in the greatest want of them. A gentleman of unquestioned veracity and great erudition, who has free admission to papers concealed from the rest of the world, has informed me, in the most authentic manner, that a flight of hawks from five hundred eyries in the wilderness of Baharim was seen a few years ago to pass northward, to the great sorrow of true Mohamedans. They lighted among the rocks of Russia, where they have continued ever since, infusing into the disciples of St Nicholas, that bravery from their eggs, which has enabled them to make the Grand Sultan tremble on his throne in the middle

dle of his guards, and threatens to expel him one day from Europe altogether. It is from the same worthy gentleman I have also information, that the chief obstacle to the peace which these two powerful nations were negotiating, was a demand made by the Russians from the Turks of many thousand falcons as a yearly tribute, which the latter absolutely refused, either from policy or inability.

The inference from all these particulars is, that the Mufti's prophecy is now accomplished——which implies the villany of his successor, who contrived his ruin. The Russians have beat the Turks on all hands——driven them from their own territories——drowned them in their own seas——and threatened to point their cannon against the walls of Constantinople itself. Victory seems to hover above the hosts of these warriors, and leads them on against their enemies to assured glory and conquest.

The advantages accruing to the Russians from the use of falcon eggs, ought to alarm the other powers of Europe for their independency, and make them enter into the most vigorous measures to set bounds to their ambition. When France
first

first established standing armies, she had it in her power to overawe and annoy all her neighbours; but as they, sensible of their danger, brought in standing armies too for their security——so ought the breeding of hawks to become the capital concern of every nation at present, in order to raise them to their former importance with regard to Russia.

After all I have said with regard to falconry in former times, and in other countries, I cannot forbear thinking, that this science appears more rational in my own time and nation, and productive of more amusement, than in any other period and people, which either prose or verse has brought to my knowledge. But, while I applaud and prefer the way of hawking to which I have been bred, I do not mean to disparage the Trebezondian, Persian, or Turkish methods. These, as they are all productive of pleasure to those who perseuse them, are, on that account, to be esteemed among the alleviations of human misery. In my own opinion, the man who condemns every thing as wrong that does not fall in with his particular notions, gives the clearest proof of a narrow mind; and he gives an equally clear proof of an haughty, arrogant,

arrogant, presumptuous disposition, if he expects that all men are to conform their various tastes to the standard of his. He might, with as much reason, demand, that they should curtail or lengthen their persons to his stature; or darken or brighten their faces to his complexion; or strengthen or weaken their appetite to his stomach, and be hungry or full, thirsty or refreshed, just when and how he pleased.

Amusements are nothing in themselves in any part of the world; but derive all their value from the delight they bestow on those who are engaged in them. Such, however, seem preferable to the rest, that throw the body into the most natural and graceful motions, and render the mind least sensible of the tedious lapse of time; thus promoting the vigour of the former, and affording the most agreeable relaxation to the latter, to qualify both for the necessary and important offices of life.

This praise is due to falconry, in whatever way it is practised in the different parts of the world. The sprightly falconer, animated by the love of sport, bursting the filken bands of sleep, rises early as the lark, and as full of glee; and hastens
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INTRODUCTION. iii

to the forest in quest of health and manly diversion. His spaniels, snuffing the scent of game in the breeze, traverse every thicket with eager impatience; and, mingling their call with the encouraging voice of their master, rouse the echo into joyous clamour from every hill and valley. Cheerful hope plays light in his heart, while his eyes encompass with watchful looks the scene of sport; and his hawk testifies, by her half-spread trembling wings, her keenness for the aerial chase.—Mark!—the dogs have sprung a woodcock—the eager falconer unhoods the bold-eyed bird, and with a cheering whistle slips her at her prey. The cock, impelled by the dreaded presence of his enemy to his utmost speed—see!—he mounts—he mounts—he mounts to the heights of air, direct as the feathered shaft from the twanging bow. The hawk pursues him—rap, rap, rap—on sounding pinions; and now breathes with open beak on his train, ready to rise above him. The cock—see!—acquires new strength and rapidity from the urgency of the danger behind him, and darts more impetuous towards the sky by the force of terror. The hawk, enraged by
his

his escape, redoubles her speed, and feels herself invigorated for the pursuit by the warmth which her resentment has kindled in her breast. Now, now, they are no bigger than wrens!—now they are dwindled to beetles!—now, they vanish, and appear to the doubtful sight like the twinkling of the smaller stars!—now the falconer and his company, prostrated on the ground, with reverted looks, in vain search for them in the expanse of air!—Thousands of elusive bubbles formed in the atmosphere by the weakened sight, such as mantle on the pool that receives the thundering cataract, intercept their view with dazzling confusion. The cock, no longer able to urge his upward flight, stretches away in a gentle declining direction, while the hawk takes the opportunity, which fatigue compels him to give her, of mounting above him, and—there, there!—they appear again to the longing sight of the gazing spectators. How rapidly the hawk stoops—how nimbly the cock buckles!—See the hawk! how quickly she regains the sky!—there she stoops like a thunderbolt!—but the cock has once more eluded the blow of death!—He makes for the cover, and, ah! will certainly

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ly escape—No ! no !—down she comes, fouse, on him again-----His good fortune has deserted him -----he drops dead near the thicket, which the instant before he viewed as his refuge from his foe.

The faulconer and his company, pleased with their diversion, take their way home ; and the landscape varying to their sight as they walk along, presents them with the successive scenes of rular beauties to compose their thoughts, agitated by the lively pleasure of such a noble and glorious flight. Here plains, through which a river cuts its way, afford pasture to numerous herds of cattle, and wind away from their following eyes among the distant hills. Yonder the rising smoke draws their attention to a village hid in trees, and their thoughts to the calm felicity of humble life. On one side, the hollow murmuring of a distant water-fall, and, on the other, the hoarse noise of the forest on the mountain's side, gently shaken by the wind, mingle in the air, and breathe serenity into their souls. Bleak hills rise before them, which they wish covered with trees ; and a mouldering ruin descried from afar, puts them in mind of the ancient family

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which

which once rejoiced there, and, alas! is now to be found only in tradition, or in the pride of those who claim their descent from it. From these subjects their conversation passes to sporting——when they commemorate, with great delight, the amazing sagacity of spaniels, and the astonishing courage of hawks, which are now in the dust; nor do they forget the diverting jokes and wonderful exploits of former falconers who sported with their fathers, and carried themselves yet infants in their arms. The ambition of each man to raise his tale above those of his neighbours, throws a strong dash of the marvellous into their narrations—which the credulous drink in without thought or examination, but which persons of penetration oppose with ridicule or argument, or with positive contradiction and extravagant bets. The debate beginning to grow warm, and to set every man's tongue a going, is happily terminated and forgotten, by the near prospect of the house where they are to dine, and recruit their wasted strength and spirits. They are arrived——every man repairs to his room to dress—and then into what a glorious uproar the whole house is cast! Orders, contradictory as at
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the Tower of Babel, burst from every apartment—servants, muttering curses against their impatient masters, fly up and down stairs with shoes, and stockings, and basons of water—and the doors, so merrily cracking and clapping, would make a stranger imagine the house was occupied by stocking-weavers and joiners, or some other equally noisy tradesmen. The bell gives the joyful signal for dinner—The company obey the welcome summons, and meet together with health and good humour smiling in their looks, and stomachs sharp enough to turn bread and water into a feast. The hospitality of the landlord and landlady who preside over the entertainment, kindly exhorts their guests to make hearty cheer, and to forget their fatigues and weariness in convivial enjoyment. Now, a field is opened for displaying the soft and gentle contention of compliments, in which the victor is recompensed with the inward pleasing sense of his own superior elegance and politeness, and the vanquished is consoled by the secret vanity of thinking himself the object of so many favourable turns of eloquence. Then, what social hobbing and nobbing!—what friendly pressing to make good cheer!—what
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complaints of bad weather and bad roads!—what wise observations on the quality and prices of provisions!—what curious anecdotes on courtship and marriages! Amidst this easy chit-chat, hunger is insensibly appeased; and now the table is adorned with bottles and glasses, the prompters of a more gay and jovial conversation. Sociality smiles on every countenance—good humour wantons in every eye—friendship warms every breast, and excites an emulation to please and to be pleased. The comic tale, the polite jest, the easy rapture, take their turns, and make the room resound, and every side in the company shake with laughter. This joyousness yields to the grave consideration of politics—the pretensions of all parties are nicely examined and debated, and every man wonders to find himself endowed with wisdom to govern a nation. Then their eloquence expatiates on horses, and dogs, and roads, and races, and wines, and farms, and banks, and hunting, and planting, and coals, and lime, and dung, and a thousand other subjects which follow one another, and are discussed in the quickest succession. Thus live falconers—the most kind, generous, and frank
of

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of men, devoid of all guile, trick, and cunning —and drawing as much happiness as they can out of life.

I shall finish this introduction, with just observing, that, as there is no relaxation more manly than hawking, so there is none more innocent, or more capable of enlarging the mind. The falconer is always conversant with the noblest objects of nature, the skies, mountains, forests, and rivers, which cannot fail of bestowing dignity and grandeur on his conceptions. From these, his soul receives an elevation of thought, which makes him despise every thing base and dishonourable; and thus he is prepared to become the ornament and benefactor of society.

POST-

THE INTRODUCTION,

P O S T S C R I P T,

THE reader will perceive a difference of style between the following treatise and the preceeding introduction: The former being written for practical falconers, required plain language; but the latter, being intended to amuse, demanded a more flowery diction both in the reasonings and translations. This is my first attempt at an introduction, which is not yet so clever as I hope to make it in the second edition. The *capacity* I received from nature for introductions, I have indeed carried into *habit*——that has grown under my hands into a *faculty*——but I must frankly own, that I find the utmost difficulty in advancing to the last stage; a compleat *energy*.

To

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE
A R C H I B A L D
EARL of EGLINTOUNE.

MY LORD,

YOUR love of Faulconry has made your Lordship often regret its decay, and wish for a plain treatise on that subject, which might render its practice easy, and induce our nobility and gentry once more to make it their favourite amusement.

Your Lordship's kind partiality, I fear, and not my merit, influenced you to flatter me into an opinion, that I was not altogether unqualified for this office. —How I have succeeded, no one can judge better than your Lordship.

There is a kind of an introduction prefixed to it, which, as it has nothing to do with the real practice, and was no part of your Lordship's desire, I presume not to ask your patronage of; but, if it will any way add, at any time, to your Lordship's amusement—I care nothing, My Lord, whether you laugh at me or with me;—but beg your Lordship will not dispute my ancient authorities.

Do me the honour, My Lord, to accept of the treatise itself as a mark of my obedience to your Lordship's commands, and of the great respect and esteem with which I beg leave to subscribe myself,

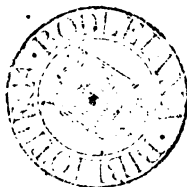
My Lord,

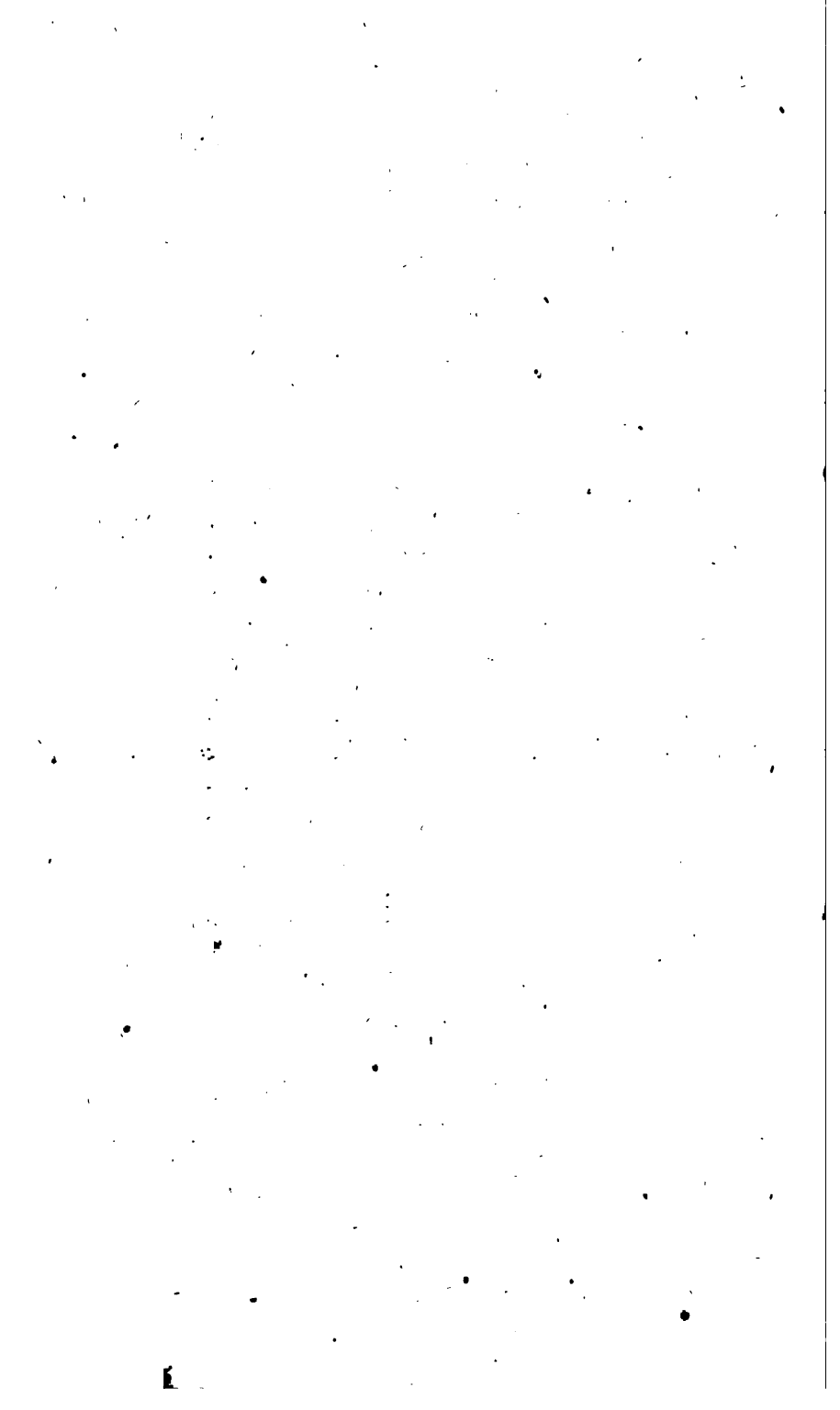
Your Lordship's

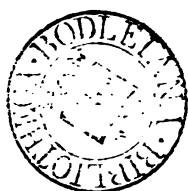
Most humble, and

Most obedient servant,

J. A. CAMPBELL.









A
T R E A T I S E
O F
MODERN FAULCONRY.

C H A P. I.

Of the Faulconer.

PREVIOUS to the instructions I am to deliver concerning hawks, I shall briefly point out the qualities necessary in the person who is to manage them. He ought then to be of great strength to bear the fatigue of ascending hills, wading over rivers, pressing thro' thickets,

thickets, and of furmounting the other difficulties that may lie in his way. Agility is also requisite, that he may be able to attend his hawks in their flight, and serve them with game, while they are hanging over his head in the air in keen expectation of it. As they will often outfly his utmost speed, his voice should be full, clear, and loud, in order to be heard at a distance, and to bring them back to the destined scene of diversion. They demand great regularity in their food and exercises, and, that he may be seldom tempted to neglect it, he must be methodical and temperate in his way of living. His love of the sport must be very intense, to animate him to undergo, undaunted, the numberless inconveniences of attendance, weather, and soil, wherewith it is generally accompanied. This will make it his main pleasure to be always with his hawks, training them to obedience, correcting their faults, and consulting their health and beauty. To do these things effectually, he must understand their temper and constitution, and ought to possess much patience and mildness in the application of his knowledge. Hawks, under the management of a man thus qualified, will be always in good order

der for flying, exhibit the greatest boldness and address in chasing their prey, give the highest pleasure to the beholders of their motions, and do just honour to the skill and attention of their keeper.

Strength, agility, keenness, and diligence, which are indispensably necessary to the menial falconer, ought also to be found in the gentleman whom he serves. They enable him to bear his part in the sport with becoming manliness, to derive from it all the amusement it can give, and to overawe his servant into the regular and honest discharge of his duty. When the master is ignorant of, or inattentive to his hawks, his falconer must be uncommonly skilful and diligent, if they are always ready when he wants them. But if, on the contrary, he be idle, lazy, and careless, he will assign as little as he can of his time and thoughts to his business, depending for impunity on his master's negligence, or on the excuses which he has prepared to impose on his ignorance. The hawks, fed with unseasonable or unwholesome meals, lose their spirit and vigour; and, deprived of their regular exercise,

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forget their obedience ; and, neglected in their natural and artificial phyfic, contract diseases, which terminate in death. Thus, a gentleman who does not understand, or does not look after his hawks, may throw away much money on them, without ever receiving any recreation from them, by reason of his own thoughtlessness, and the knavery of his servant. As this reason puts the sport of hawking itself out of his power, at least in its full perfection ; so a tender, delicate, feeble constitution, and a timorous, apprehensive, nice turn of mind, will render him utterly incapable of enjoying it, were it in his power, even in its highest excellence. If a person of this frame suffer a fit of keenness for the sports of the sky to hurry him through all their toils, he runs great danger of over-fatiguing himself, and thereby destroying his health ; and if, on the other hand, his mind is occupied in the consideration of all the bad consequences which may arise from them, his fears exclude all enjoyment. While the finewy sons of the field bound, light as the deer, over every obstacle in the way of their diversion, the cautious valetudinarian picks his steps, calculating the probabilities of his death, if he strain his

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his relaxed nerves to equal the jovial career of his fleet companions. The moment that the mountain's brow offers itself to his ascent, the fancied toil makes his lungs work in heaving pantings; already he thinks his burst blood-vessels are pouring out their purple contents at his mouth, and the dread of death almost puts a period to his life. The murmuring brook, which opposes itself to his progress, swells in his imagination to a roaring torrent, and grows more chillingly cold than the sharpest blast of the north; straight his teeth chatter, his breast trembles throbbing, his flesh creeps on his bones, his voice seems hoarse, his blood is fevered; and, to save his life, he turns away from the hideous rill. When he arrives at the edge of a meadow flooded with the rains of winter, the sight strikes him with horror. The echoing shouts of the company, whom he beholds with astonishment at their temerity, dashing fearlessly through it, in vain encourage him to follow. He fancies a quagmire under the water; his deluded eyes represent it rising and sinking under their weight: Now he thinks himself up to the chin in the mud, just
going

going to be swallowed; Now he labours for breath, oppressed by the terrors of imagined suffocation. In short, a man of slenderness and timidity ought never to think of hawking but in very fine weather, and where he can take his station on the summit of a dry hill, whence he may command a view of some miles around him, and see throughout that space whatever flights are made by the falcons.

C H A P. II.

Of the Implements of Falconry.

HAVING given an idea of a skilful falconer, the implements of his profession come next under consideration. These are hoods, jesses, varvels, leashes, creances, lures, tubs, copping-irons, gloves, blocks, and chamber-perches. Of each in its order.

The Hood is a covering fitted easily to the hawk's head; neatly made of leather; enlivened with two circular bits of velvet, one on each side,

side, representing eyes; and rising up with a stalk about an inch in height, which terminates in a small tuft of feathers. It is very ornamental to the bird; and the use of it is to darken her, that she may not beat from the fist, as she is apt to do when bare-faced, and thus hurt her wings.

JESSES are narrow straps of leather, five or six inches long, fastened to the hawk's legs, close to the feet, and, when held by the falconer, serve to keep her steady on his fist.

VARVELS are small silver rings, bound to the ends of the jesses, marked with his name who owns the hawk, and inform those who find her straying, where she is to be sent back.

The LEASHES are thongs about two feet long, inserted into the varvels, with buttons at the ends, to hinder them from running through altogether; and their use is to secure the hawk on the falconer's fist, by their being wound about his fingers, or to tie her up to her block.

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The **CREANCES** are lines between twenty and thirty fathoms long, knit to the leashes, when you would prevent haggards that are for the first time entered at game from flying quite away; but used to intangle other hawks, in order that they may not carry off their quarry.

The **LURE** consists of leather stuffed with feathers, resembling the body of a fowl, with the real wings of a drake or grouse made fast to its sides, and slung on a thong. This delusion, whirled around the falconer's head, or thrown up into the air, imposes on the hawks, and brings them more readily within his reach than they would have otherwise come.

The **TUB** is a flat vessel, about four inches deep, which is set by the block whereon the hawk sits, and filled with water for her bousing and bathing.

The **COPPING-IRONS** are a kind of pincers, with sharp edges, for paring the beak, pounces, and talons of the hawk, when they are overgrown; and so become incommodious to her.

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The **GLOVE**, worn by the falconer on the left hand, is much larger and thicker than any ordinary gloves, and that in order to save his hand from being torn by the hawks as he feeds them or carries them in the field.

The **BLOCK** is a solid piece of wood, shaped like a sugar-loaf with the six upper inches broken off, whereon the hawk perches, being tied to it by the leash, which goes through the last link of a small iron swivel fixed in its side.

The **CHAMBER-PERCH** resembles one of the leaves of a folding screen. It consists of two pieces of wood four feet high, joined together at the top with a bar three feet long, and supported erect by a bit of wood nailed to each of the lower ends, in a contrary direction to the bar, which connects them above, and covered over, from top to bottom, with coarse canvas tacked to their sides. This frame stands in a dining-room, or in any other to which much company resort; and hawks being set on it, become the sooner tame or manny, pluming and dressing themselves

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by

by candle-light, before the people who are by them.

The LEASH is fastened short around the upper bar on which the birds are perched ; and the use of the canvas is to assist any one of them which happens to fall down to get up again to her place, by catching hold of the threads, and turning herself up again.

It is to be particularly observed, that 'dog-skin, dressed with alum, is preferable to every other kind of leather in the implements of falconry, as it is known, by experience, to be tougher than any other, and so least apt to be torn by the hawks.

C H A P. III.

Of the Spaniels.

THE small breed of SPANIELS called King-Charles's, are excellent for hawking ; but, because

cause these dogs cannot hold out long in ranging, on account of their diminutiveness, others of somewhat a larger size are to be preferred. The Scottish and English spaniels are strong enough to bear any fatigue, and, in this respect, have the advantage of the kinds I have just mentioned; but, as they are too large to pass through the cover with the ease and expedition of the former, they are, for this reason, less eligible.

The management of the dogs in the field is easily understood. They must be all taught to stand still at the crack of a short whip, which the falconer carries about with him for the purpose, and to range through the cover at his accustomed whistle and call. Their obedience in the first case is absolutely necessary when the hawk's head is outward, because she would miss any game they chanced to spring when her sight was in a wrong direction. They are therefore to stop till her head be inward again, and, whenever this happens, are, in the second case, to obey directly the signals by which they are ordered to traverse the cover again, that she may be served as soon as possible.

Good

Good dogs make good hawks ; for it ruins a hawk to hover on her wings too long, vainly waiting for her prey, by not being instantly served.

Besides the spaniels, a setting dog is necessary. Whenever he makes a set, the hawk is to be put to a high place above him ; and, when you see her there, and her head right in, you are to run in and raise the birds before the dog, in order to serve her. This gives great advantage to a hawk, on her being, for the first time entered, as it enables her to dart directly down on her prey, whereby she hardly ever misses it ; and thus acquires new spirit and confidence in her attacks. But if, after all, she should miss it, the spaniels, being for this end ready uncoupled, are to be hunted into the cover immediately, to retrieve or spring it again. It is to be observed, that high-flying hawks are not to be chased out of the hood from your fist, because this management will soon make them forget going to their stately gait altogether. The speedy rank-winged hawk is the proper one for chasing ; for she never goes to a high gait ; but, depending on the force of her

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her wings, pursues her prey in its own track, and seldom or ever fails to kill it. She is more bloody than the high-flyer ; but this last affords pleasanter sport.

C H A P. IV.

Of Hawks, and of the Familiarity between them and the Faulconer and his Dogs.

THERE is a great variety of hawks in the world ; but I propose to treat only of those which the sportsmen use in this island. These are the falcon and tercel-gentle, the goshawk and tercel, the gyrfalcon and jerkin, the merlin and jack-merlin, the spar-hawk and musket, the lanner and lanneret, and the faker and fakeret.

Before I proceed to the consideration of the hawks here enumerated, let me recommend it to the falconer to cultivate a familiarity in his hawks with himself and his spaniels. The way
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to bring about this familiarity, is to be, both himself and his dogs, with them as constantly as possible. The dogs ought always to be present when he feeds and exercises them; nay, they should be habituated to lie by them, both when they are in their mew, and on their blocks. The benefit of this familiarity is, that they will attend closely on the falconer and the dogs in the field, and direct their own motions in the air by those they observe these make below. I have seen hawks so familiar as to sit on a dog while he slept, and plume and dress themselves in that situation. Also, when the dog catches a partridge by surprise, I have seen a hawk come down, seize him by the head, and take the fowl out of his mouth. The dogs grow fond of the hawks, and never resent any freedoms of this kind which they take with them. It were of advantage to have the spaniels taught to fetch and carry; for, many partridges are killed by the dogs in the cover, and lost, for want of their being accustomed to bring their master the game they thus destroy.

C H A P. V.

Of the chusing of the Faulcon-gentle.

THIS bird has received the epithet of gentle, on account of her mildness, and easiness to be reclaimed. No hawk exceeds her in strength according to her size, or is hardier to endure fatigue. She is excellent to sport with at either field or brook. It is an observation, applicable to all hawks, that they prove bold or cowardly, according as they are first quarried or taught.

An error which some faulconers have advanced comes to be confuted in this place. They say, that hawks taken from the eyrie, before they are ful-summed and hard-penned, will have their wings imperfect at their best, their legs crooked, and their train, long feathers, and flags full of taints. To this error I oppose experience of the contrary; for I have taken hawks from the eyrie, covered only with downs, which, by being fed high with newly killed
hot

hot meat, drove their feathers, and were, when fully summed and hard, as strong, and proved as good as any I ever had from the cyrie full-driven.

In chusing hawks, you will take notice, that small faulcons and large tercel's are evermore the best. The characters of a good hawk are, a large black eye, a round head, wide nares, a short thick beak, a high neck, a round fleshy breast, broad-shouldered, fails full-side long, large thighs, strong arms, large feet, black pounces, long wings crossing the train, and a long train.

C H A P. VI.

Of the Names of Hawks according to their different Ages.

FAULCONS have different names according to their different ages; as eyefis, ramage-hawk, foar-hawk, mewed-hawk, and slender hawk.

All

All these hawks have different plumes and colours, according to the different countries where they are bred; some, for instance, are dark and ruffet. They also differ in thier dispositions; some being, for instance, better for the field, and others for the river.

As to their names, they are called Eyeffes, while they continue in the eyrie. Some faulconers are against hawks from the eyrie; because, say they, while they are young, they are troublesome in feeding, and cry much; and when they are grown, it is difficult to enter them. This objection is of little weight; for they will take new-killed hot meat without any trouble, and never cry, if you feed them often with it. By this management, they become exceeding manny, easy to be entered, and, when well-quarried, the best hawks for either the field or the river.

The Ramage-hawk is the name by which the eyris is known, after she leaves the eyrie; and, during the months of June, July, and August, hawks of this age turn out excellent birds, when properly reclaimed.

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The Soar-hawk is the name which the ramage-hawk passes by in the months of September, October, and November. The feathers with which she leaves the cyrie she keeps till the ensuing year, when they are mewed. They are called soar-feathers.

The soar-hawk changes this name at the end of November, and receives that of Carvist, which she is known by during the months of December, January, February, March, April, and the half of May, being then carried on the fist. Some faulconers represent hawks of this age as very great beaters, and therefore little eaters; as frequently troubled with filander-worms, and rarely brought to be good for any thing. Experience confutes this opinion, by which it is certain, that there is no other difference than age between them and those taken in the months of September and October. It is the faulconer's fault if they beat; for he ought not to set them bare-faced on their blocks, as, in that condition, irreclaimed hawks will beat in any month. As for the filander-worms, the medicines to be afterwards mentioned will shew they may be easily prevented, or cured.

cured. Carvists, therefore, it is evident, may be rendered as good as any hawks whatever, by proper care to reclaim them.

The carvist, in the middle of March, begins to be called a Mewed Hawk, or Enter-mew, which name she retains till the end of September. During this period, she casts her feathers, and gets a new coat. Some faulconers object to her, that she is hardly to be trusted, and must, on that account, be kept hard under. They are right, if she was not entered the year preceeding ; but, if she killed plenty of game, then she is easily made manny from the mew, and turns out to be the best of all hawks. A hawk which has not been entered at game the first year, will never afterwards prove good for any thing.

C H A P. VII.

Of the proper Method of Hooding Hawks which have an Aversion to it from harsh Usage.

HAUKS are apt to take an aversion to their hoods when they are forced on them roughly and unskilfully at first. The impatient falconer confirms their aversion, by persisting in the same violent method whereby he first raised it; so that there is a contention between him and his hawk every time he is going to hood her, vexatious to his own mind, and prejudicial to her health. In order to reconcile her to the hood, observe the following plain directions. When at any time whatever you carry her on your fist, hang on the little finger of the same hand a hood remarkable for the brightness of its colour, that it may the better catch her attention. Let it hing there for a week, never permitting the hawk to see it during that period in your right hand, and accustom her to feed close by it.

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The next week you may venture to take the hood softly into your right hand, and play it gently about her meat as she is feeding, now and then slightly touching her with it. This done, you will return it to your finger again where it hung before in her sight, till you are to feed her. When you have brought her this way to endure it, you will move it easily on her meat, which you must hold on your left hand, and seem as if you wanted to hinder her from eating. You will now observe, that her aversion is decreased by her striving to keep it off, and feed beside it. Then take a little bit of meat in your left hand, and holding the hood by the tassel in the right just over it, provoke her by the sight of the flesh to press to it through the openings of the hood. When you have made her so familiar with the hood as to feed through it without any signs of fear, you may augment this familiarity by drawing it over, or shaking it about her meat yet more freely. As her aversion is now almost gone, you may bear the hood a little against her while she feeds through it; and you will find, that in her eagerness to eat, she will thrust her head into it altogether, and withdraw it of her own accord.

cord. When she hoods herself in this manner, let her eat freely till she has done with her food ; and let the hood remain on her till you are next to feed her.

By following this method you will in less than a month bring her to hood herself by the least bit of meat, without any trouble. This course is tedious indeed, but it will ever gain its end ; whereas bobbing, or struggling, renders the hawk forever impatient of the hood. You will take notice, that even this method will be ineffectual, if you begin it when the hawk's stomach is weak, because it is by the sharpness of her appetite that her dislike of the hood is to be overcome. All gentleness and care is to be observed at first, to weaken her fears ; and, when she is once formed to your mind, she will with a very little attention continue so.

C H A P. VIII.

Of the Faulcon-gentle from the Eyrie.

HAVING these forty years past kept hawks, I hope it will not be regarded as presumption to declare, that hawks bred from the eyrie are preferable to any whatever which are taken wild. It is with hawks as with all other creatures. Those which are taken very early from their dams into the care of man, become much more tractable and affectionate than such as are caught wild, which, after all our care to tame them, shew a strong disposition to regain their former uncontrolled liberty. This is evidently the case with regard to all haggards, by which term is denoted all hawks taken by art from the sky, in contradistinction to those that are reared from the eyrie.

In order to obtain such a hawk as I am recommending, you are to visit the eyrie frequently the last week of May, that being the time when eyesses begin to get their feathers. You are not to take them till you see their feathers almost driven,

driven, and able to bear them from the nest; for, if you carry them away in the down, they are in danger of contracting a disagreeable habit of shrieking, which is not easily broken. It may, however, be broken, by very high feeding, which is also necessary at this time to raise them to their full strength and beauty.

When you think the eyesses just far enough driven to be taken away, you are to put them in a broad basket, and cover them with a cloth, that the darkness may hinder them from moving and breaking their feathers. But, if they are too far driven to be caught with your hand, and branch from the eyrie to other parts of the rock, you are to let down a flag-net before them, wherein they will be immediately intangled. When you see them fast, let the net drop down, if the bottom below them be safe fall on; but, otherwise, let them down as quick as you can by the cord. I have several times caught them this way, even ten days after they had left the eyrie.

C H A P.

C H A P. IX.

Of the Treatment of young Hawks when first taken from the Eyrie.

WHEN you have got your young hawks, you are to put them into the mew, which is a house designed chiefly for feeding hawks the second year, from March to September, at which time they get a new coat. While they are here, you are to visit them at least three times a day with hot new-killed meat, such as hawks naturally prey on. The food they are fondest of is pigeons, small birds, rats, mice, hare, rooks, and chickens ; for a falconer ought to imitate nature as nearly as he can in training them. You are to set small blocks in the mew for them to perch on, and to spread soft hay around the blocks whereon they may rest on their breast in the night, as young hawks always do till their legs are strong enough to carry their weight. When you enter the mew with
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their food, present it to them hollowing at the same time, Ho, ho, ho, as falconers do; and this hollowing you are to observe as often as you feed them. By pursuing this method for a few days, they will come to your fist of their own accord, and feed boldly, and in two or three weeks will follow you through the mew.

When you see your hawks driven full length in their feathers, you are to have jesses, bewits, bells, and varvels in readiness, and to slip them softly on some darkish evening while they are feeding most eagerly, and not minding what you are about. You may then slip on their hoods also; but be sure they be easy and deep behind, that they may not pinch their heads, and made so as to draw close and easy below; for, if the hood, as was already observed, frighten or hurt them at first, they will take a dislike at it, which cannot be removed without much pains and trouble. You are therefore to carry them always on your fist in the day, frequently hooding and unhooding them by candle-light, and giving them a bit of meat when you pull off the hood, and slipping it on again while they are feeding. This
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treatment you must give them for several days, and, as your hand will be their perch during that time, they will become quite tame and manny,

C H A P. X.

Of the training of Young Hawks to the Lure.

NOW that your hawks come eagerly to your fist, and feed on it fearlessly, you are to train them to the lure, which ought to be a German one, so large and heavy; as that they will not be able to drag or carry it away; for these are among the worst faults that hawks can have. In order to prevent these faults, you are to feed your birds on your hand, or on the lure, or on the heck; and it is either in one or other of these three ways only you are to feed them for the first year. Beware also never to throw them their meat as they are either flying, or sitting on their blocks; never to snatch their food hastily from them as they are feeding; never to come upon them by surprise, when

when they are on their quarry, yourself, or horses, or dogs. It is during the first year they are aptest to contract the faults I am here putting you on your guard against.

But, to return to the luring of them. When they come readily to the lure in the mew, and feed on it, and are well acquainted with, and obedient to your voice, carry them out on a very calm day to the most extensive plain that lies near you; take, at the same time, along with you, a person who understands the hooding and unhooding of hawks, and having carried yours to the field, let him take his station about the middle of it, and slacken the hood of one of them. Then go yourself to the distance of an hundred yards from him, toss the lure round your head, and hollow with your usual tone, having previously ordered your companion to unhood the hawk as soon as he hears your voice. You will find that then the hawk will fly straight for the lure, which you must throw out to her; and, as this is the first time of her being lured in the field, you must have a piece of pigeon or chicken fixed to the lure, that she may not be disappointed in her expectations.

Next

Next you are to lure her at a still greater distance, which you must gradually increase, till you go as far as to be just within her sight or hearing ; and at all distances you will find her eager for the lure. This exercise you are to give her daily at nine o'clock in the forenoon, and at four o'clock in the afternoon, till you enter her at the poulting, which begins on the 12th day of August ; and, though she was brought from the cyrie only in the first week of June preceeding, you will find her grown, even in this short time, strong enough to kill any moor-fowl whatever.

C H A P. XI.

Of the Way in which a Red Hawk is to be brought down or raised to proper Plight.

CARE must be taken that your young hawk, which we now call a red hawk, be in a middling plight, neither too low nor too high ; for, in the first case, she is too weak to fly with force, and,
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in the second, will not, take the trouble to obey the lure. When she is too low, you must raise her to her strength by high feeding; and when too high, and perhaps too hot, you will give her five or six small stones over the hand in the following manner.

The hawk being on your left hand, you lay your left leg over the right knee; and setting the hawk's train over your left knee, which you do by extending your left hand, whereon she is sitting, over the left knee, so that the part just above the wrist may rest on the knee, you are to have your pebbles in water ready by you. The hawk being in this position, you take between the thumb and middle finger of the right hand one of the pebbles, and, pressing her beak on both sides with the fore-finger and edge of the thumb, till she open it, you then put in the stone, and push it over immediately with the tip of the fore-finger. This way of giving hawks pebbles is said to be over the hand, because you give them with the right hand over the left; but it answers best with an old experienced falconer.

The

The safest way with a young hawk is to cast her ; that is, you desire a person to take her in both his hands by the shoulders, and rest her breast on your knee. Then, while he holds her in that situation, you pull her legs by the jesses and leash so fast as not to strain them under your thigh ; by which means she is fixed without any hurt. This done, you take the pebbles one by one out of the water, and, pressing open her beak, make her swallow them. There is no sort of danger to the hawk this way, as she is secured from struggling by the hold which your assistant has of her above, and by the hold which the leash has of her below. But the over-hand way may be injurious to her, if the falconer be not very dextrous in it ; for, when she is averse to the stones, she draws back her head as far she as can, to avoid them, and by her violent motions runs much hazard of straining her back. These small stones or pebbles cool her, and at the same time separate from the pannel whatever foulness may adhere to that vessel.

Immediately

Immediately after the stones, you are to give her casting; that is, the feathers and bones of small birds, or the pinion of the wing of any of the larger birds, or a hare's foot, beaten soft, and washed with water, which must be afterwards squeezed out. If the hawk be in good health, she will take the casting out of your hand of her own accord; and you are to give her that not till after the meat is all passed out of the gorge into the pannel, which generally happens three hours after she is fed. If she throws up the casting early in the night, and appear to be hot, which you will know by her eagerness for the bath, you will then give her the stones, which she throws next morning. If she need no stones, that is, if she be cool, and properly in-seamed, you will delay them till she is in a bad habit of body.

It is to be observed, that casting is absolutely necessary to preserve a hawk in health, and must therefore be given her always some hours after she is fed, at night, in order to promote digestion; but stones are never necessary but when she is hot, and are then to be given her after
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the casting. When she throws up the casting, which she does in the form of a ball, squeeze it, and you will learn by the yellow or clear colour of the liquid which drops from it, whether she is in ill or good health. By these rules, and your own experience, you will be able to keep your hawk high and strong for flight, sharp and eager to wait on in the air.

C H A P. XII.

Of the proper Times of feeding Hawks, in order to have them ready for flying at any particular Time after.

THERE are great mistakes among falconers with regard to the proper time of the day when a hawk is in order for flying; but these may be easily removed. They arise from not attending to the time she was fed the day before; and may be prevented by carefully attending to that time. If you want your hawk to fly early next

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morning,

morning, you are to feed her moderately this evening between three and four o'clock; and, about seven, when her food will be gone into the pannel, you are to give her casting, which will be thrown between four and five o'clock of the ensuing morning. If you want her to fly at mid-day, or the afternoon of next day, you must feed her proportionably later. Thus you may know when she is in proper trim for flight, by knowing the time when you fed her last the day before; but, to know this the more exactly, you must also take into consideration, whether she was fed with light or heavy food, and calculate accordingly.

C H A P. XIII.

Of the Birds the Hawk is to fly at and to avoid, when she is in training immediately for Game.

WHEN you have made your hawk come with speed to the lure, by whistling her up to a place
twice

twice or thrice a day, then take a brown chicken, and, while she is flying about waiting for the lure, throw up the chicken in her sight. The instant she observes the fowl, she will fly to and seize it; and, for her encouragement, you must allow her to feed a gorge of it. By giving her in this manner a chicken two or three different times before you carry her to the field, she will fly at, and kill the first poult you spring for her. Beware of giving her live pigeons, for that will make her check and fly at them ever after, whenever they come in her way. It is certain, that, if she kill and feed upon a few of these birds when she is first entered, she will not take the trouble of flying at game; but will leave you in the field, and go home to the pigeon-house, where you may be always sure of finding her fu'-footed. This practice will make her irclaimable; and therefore you had best take off her jesses, bewits, and bells, as she is entirely useless for the purposes of diversion; and, thus stripped, you may whistle her down the wind to prey on fortune.

I never had two hawks that checked; which I prevented by never permitting them to kill a single pigeon, even when they flew at heck near a pigeon-house; and this I effected by the exact care and attention I paid to their feeding, which never having been neglected, saved them from the temptation to check. Flying at heck, as it is to be explained presently, is so convenient and natural, that no doubt but every falconer will prefer it where there is no pigeon-house at all, or at a considerable distance. Some falconers enter their hawks with live pigeons at the lure, and from their hand; which is so absurd and destructive in making of a hawk, that it ought not to be mentioned.

A young red hawk inclines much to the bath, and needs it once in two days. I have already mentioned the tub in which she is to take it. The circumference of it must be wide enough to allow her to bathe with her wings quite open. If it be too narrow, she is in danger of beating her tender feathers on the edge of it, which I have seen happen. When this is the case, the blood or substance flies out of it, and the feather

ther on the top of the pinion of the wing is by this accident lost. As it is in a situation which affords it little moisture, it will scarce ever come again, after being once destroyed.

C H A P. XIV.

Of the Management of a Hawk when first entered at Game.

THE falconer is now to go to the moors with his hawk, which I suppose is by this time well trained to the lure, and somewhat acquainted with blood, by the live chickens that were thrown her. Let him give her the bath the day before, and also her food and casting, in the manner I have already directed, by which he will have her in exact trim for flying. Mark where one of the poults sits down, which you spring when you first enter the moors, and cause your setting dog set it. Then instantly unhood your hawk; set her face straight towards the dog; spring the bird; let her go off your fist; and she will soon make it her own.

When

When she has brought it down, go gently round her, while she is pluming the feathers off it, all the time hollowing to her. Let her break upon the bird, and take the head and neck of it; and then lift her softly on your hand, and hood her as she is feeding. After she has killed two or three birds, feed her up on the last; for a good reward is great encouragement to a hawk.

You are not to make her fly at all fowls, till after she has killed three or four large poults, that she may not be disappointed by the superior strength and speed of the former before she has fully acquired her own. A young red falcon or tercel, when in perfection, is the first year very bloody; for with such I have killed more fowls than any year thereafter.

Further, if your hawk wait well on at her being first entered, hunt your setting dog, and keep your hawking spaniels in couples. If the bird set by the dog, after being sprung, take to the cover, you are to uncouple the spaniels, to retrieve

retrieve them, as it has been already observed in a former chapter.

Great care must be taken to serve your hawk punctually ; for many hawks, for want of skilful falconers and good dogs, have been baffled in their expectations, which, had they been kept in blood, and quickly served, would have turned the best of hawks. A young hawk is able to fly two days as hard as you please ; but every third you must give her weather and bath ; and thus proceed during the sporting season. An enternewed, or old hawk, cannot bear such fatigue ; and, as she generally goes to a great gate, if you chase her as you do a red hawk, it will bring her from her stately gate. Therefore, you are to fly them seldom in the day as you see them, in order to preserve their high flying ; and, at the same time, to carry on your sport, fly on with your red hawks, which you cannot hurt, if you keep them in blood.

C H A P. XV.

*Of the Superiority of the Faulcon from the Eyrik
over the Haggard Faulcon.*

NOTWITHSTANDING the high estimation in which haggard falcons are held by some people, there are two objections to them, which, properly attended to, will very much diminish their value.

First, They are naturally given to check ; for, when they drive the game into the cover, unless the falconer be very nimble to serve them, and very careful to keep them low and nigh himself, they rake off with the first pigeons or crows that come in their way. This fault renders them useless.

The *second* objection arises in some measure from the first ; for, when they happen to be footed in the evening, and cannot be found that night, they are flown away before you come to the
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the field next morning in search of them, being well acquainted with the country, and able to live without human assistance.

These objections against haggard foulcons, as they are bred wild, arise from the nature of the birds, and are unanswerable; but, at the same time, they show the superior advantage of hawks from the eyrie, which are free from checking, and will stay in the field where you lost them for a day or two; or, if they know the country, will go home to the heck where you used to feed them.

C H A P. XVI.

Of flying at Heck.

LET it be observed, that the time for flying at heck is not when you fly your hawk at game every second or third day, but when you are resolved to intermit sporting for a week, or longer.

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Immediately after you have entered your hawk at moor-fowl, you are to accustom her to fly at heck. The properest place for flying at heck is an old turreted castle, or other large building, where the hawk may have several places of shelter to perch on in stormy weather. The best spot for the heck is the bottom of a garret-window, on which you are to fix a board, projecting two feet in the open air. About the middle of this board two holes are to be made, through which you are to put the ends of a small cord, and then to append to them about two pounds weight of lead, to pull them tightly down. Under the loop made by the cord on the surface of the board, and between the two holes, put the hawk's meat, where it will be fixed, while she feeds, by the weight of the lead hanging below. By this simple contrivance, the hawk is hindered from flying off with her food, which would not only spoil it, but also teach her to carry, which would ruin her, if she learned to do it from the heck.

If the house be low, and on that account unfit for a board in the window, nail the
board

board on the top of a pole about ten feet long, which you will fix erect in the earth, as a heck for the hawk to feed on. The pole must be very strong, and firmly fixed in its place, as it must bear the weight of a ladder which the falconer ascends to put the hawk's meat on the board; but it is to be taken away immediately after, that boys may not disturb her as she feeds. But the garret-window is much better for a heck than the pole; because, by leaving it open, the hawk goes within, and saves herself from bad weather. The red tercel, as he is a tame and manny bird, and neither so strong nor so ravenous as the falcon, is an excellent flier at heck, and not ready to check.

Some falconers, in order to hinder their hawks from checking when they fly at heck, fill both the bells with lead. This is a bad method, on two accounts; *first*, because it accustoms a hawk to fly low, and hinders her from rising to a stately gate; and, *secondly*, because it endangers the straining of her back, which, when it happens, destroys her altogether.

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The faulconer must mark the time when the hawk is sharp, which, in the evening, is about four or five o'clock, and in the morning about six or seven, that he may feed her regularly. Her meet must be fresh and warm; for old or cold meat is contrary to her nature, and will ruin her health. This is evident from the haggard, which never returns to feed on the dead pelt of the bird she has killed and taken a gorge of, but must have hot blood for her next meal, by killing another bird. If you cannot always command hot new-killed meat, you must wash the cold meat in luke-warm water in winter, and in cold water in summer. This food will barely keep her in health, but never in that spirit and vigour which she receives from hot blood. But it is to be observed, that, if you feed her long on washen meat, she will fall away, and is only to be recovered by changing her diet into warm new-killed meat. I must again recommend it to the faulconer to feed his hawk very regularly; for if, by his neglect, she find nothing on the heck on her return from her flight, nor see him ready to feed her, she will check hens, crows, pigeons, or any other birds, to appease her hunger. Two or
three

three neglects of this kind will ruin a hawk to her owner, by giving her a propensity to check like the haggard. I used to feed my hawk so regularly at heck, that she often sat on the top of the pigeon-house among the pigeons, without ever meddling with any of them.

When the falconer leaves home, he is previously to take down his hawk and set her on a block in the garden under a shade, where, in summer she may be sheltered from the heat, in winter from the tempest. Here the dogs will lie and sleep by her; whither also they will come, if they chance to lose you in a strange place. When the falconer returns, he is to feed his hawk high, and set her to her wings. She will range then for some miles around, and, on finding herself sharp-set, return to the heck. I have kept hawks at heck the whole year, except cawking-time, which continues the month of March and part of April. During this season, you are to take down your hawk from the heck, and to set her on a block in the garden in the day-time, with a tub and water and stones by her, and to put her in the mew at night. Lure her as often
as

as the weather is good. But beware of wild haggards; for they will, in cawking-time, decoy your hawks away to the rocks, where they have their several cyries. I once had my tercel thus carried off by a haggard faulcon in March; but recovered him on going to the cyrie.

C H A P. XVII.

Of the Advantages of flying at Heck.

THIS way of flying at heck keeps your hawk in continual health and metal; and, as you may feed her as high as you please, you may bring her to fly as hard as any haggard. It is, on these accounts, preferable to the old method of confining them; a method certainly contrary to their natural bent and disposition. It spoils their digestion, engenders diseases, benumbs their joints, and robs them of their spirit and alacrity. By this means, the falconer, instead of deriving pleasure from his hawks, takes up his time in preparing drugs for their recovery; and, before
that

that is effectuated, the sporting season may be gone. But hawks that fly at heck are free from all these inconveniencies, and not only equal, but surpass haggards. For, I have seen my hawk flying along with a wild one at the same partridge; and, on coming up, I always found the former fu'-footed, which is a proof she had outstripped her companion in flight. Nay, if you take from the haggard her exercise, her regular feeding, and confine her to a block or mew, she will soon lose her natural speed and strength, and fall far short of a hawk bred to fly at heck.

It is observable, that the falconers of former times were unacquainted with this way of making hawks. Nor had they any occasion for it, as their sport was all chacing, not high-flying, which lasted the poulting and partridging season; and, when this was over, they threw their hawks into the mew, till it returned the ensuing year. They carried on their poulting in July with red hawks; and, when they could not make them fly hard enough by their confined way of keeping them, they unjustly gave them out as naturally worse than

than haggards. But the contrary opinion has been already established.

The best sport, that of high-flying, is at the woodcock, from the beginning of November till the end of March, when the cawking-time is mostly over; and, about the middle of April, set her to her wings.

C H A P. XVIII.

Of the proper Food for Hawks while they fly at Heck, and when they fly at Game.

NO flesh is better for a hawk than dog-flesh when newly killed. With this food feed your hawk two or three months in summer while she is flying at heck. It is easy of digestion, exceeding nutritive, and very efficacious to make the hawk drive her feathers. Give her as much as she pleases; for the violence of her exercise will enable her to digest it, and you will have her driven

driven a month sooner than by any other sort of food whatever. But it is her great exercise which renders it so wholesome ; because, were she confined to a mew or to a block, without much flying, it is more than probable that it would bring on diseases.

As soon as her feathers are driven, you must leave off giving her dog's flesh ; and, in order to prepare her for the moors, or partridges, you are to give her stones, and plumage, and hot meat, such as pigeons, small birds, hare's flesh, &c. The strength of a falcon, when in good order, is amazing. One day, when I was in the field, as my falcon was flying above the dogs, which were busy seeking game, a hare started, which had been wounded before ; the hawk perceiving her, came down, and, by two strokes on the head, made her tumble over, and, at the third, held her fast, she being now quite worn out. To encourage the hawk, I gave her the heart, with a full gorge of the hare ; and, ever after, she flew at hares as at other game, killing them at two or three strokes, when they were clear of

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the cover. In this way a hare can hardly escape, especially if the dogs are in with them.

C H A P. XIX.

Of Birding Hawks.

Birding is a method of training hawks unknown to the falconers of former times. It is the best way of habituating your hawk to wait, jump on, and to go to a great gate. Nothing in the practice of falconry is more delightful, and, at the same time, more convenient, than to have your hawk in the sky waiting on you for a mile or two, till you have hunted all the fields and covers below her with your spaniels. It is highly entertaining to observe the rapid stoops she makes from her height as you spring her game. The falconer and his company mark them with looks and exclamations of admiration and delight.

Larks

Larks only are proper for birding, on account of the great height to which they fly. To catch them, observe the following contrivance: Go to the field with a hawk on your fist, and carry along with you a boy with a flag-net. As soon as you mark a lark, go round and round it, holding out your hawk, the fear of which will make it lie close. Then order your boy to throw the net over it, with your assistance, and take it up. In this way you may procure in summer as many larks as you please. But, in winter, when they will not sit till you find them, you are to use a bang-net. This net is about eighteen or twenty fathoms long, and about two deep, with a small cord along the bar of it, about three or four fathom at each end longer than the net. You are also to provide another cord longer than the net, and to tie to the middle of it, at small distances, three or four bunches of straw, which falconers call the bassel.

These things prepared, you must set out at the dawn, or at the twilight; for at either of these times larks fly not high, but skim along the ground. Observe where a lark sits down
among

among the stubbles; then two men, one at each end, hold the net loose at its length on the ground, and other two bear the cord with the bassel along, ever and anon rapping it against the stubbles, towards those who take care of the net. As soon as they raise the lark by this motion, the bird sweeps along the ground towards the net. When the men at the net, who, for the greater readines, must be on their knees, see the lark within two or three yards of the net, and just about to fly over it, they bang it immediately up, and then let it fall, whereby the bird is taken. Thus I have seen ten or twelve larks taken, without missing one.

You are to catch no more larks than will serve your hawk a single day, two being sufficient for one hawk in the forenoon, and two in the afternoon: For, when they are kept too long, they grow faint, and so cannot fly high enough. When you take them, put them into a bag, with small holes to admit fresh air; and hang the bag in a dark place, that by beating they may not weaken themselves.

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Your larks being ready, take one of them out of the bag, and fiel it. *Siding* is performed in this manner ; Pull out one of the train feathers ; strip the plume off one side of it ; and then put it through the one under eye-lid, over the beak ; and lastly through the other under eye-lid, Thus the plume of the other side of the feather, standing out under the eyes of the bird, hinders it from looking below ; and as it can see only above, it will fly upwards as high as it can reach. Then whistle up your hawk ; and when you see her head right in, throw up the fied lark, which generally she will soon make her prey ; and you must suffer her to eat it. But, when the lark gets straight up to its height, the hawk, by pursuing it, is also accustomed to go to a high gate.

You may fiel your lark so as she will have more light, and by that means render it the more difficult for the hawk to overtake it. And at other times you may give her an unfied lark ; but, if it outfly her, be sure to throw up a fied one to her, that she may not be disappointed.

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This done every day before the partridging and cocking seasons, the hawk will learn to wait well on, and go to a great gate ; particularly the tercel, which is naturally a high-flyer, and does not carry. He should be trained more than the faulcon by birding.

C H A P. XX.

Of Imping the Hawk's Feathers when broken,

THE feathers that are proper to be imped are the six large feathers, from the top of the wing to the flag-feathers. The first feather is called the Cessel, the second the Longapen, the third the Coutel ; after the fourth, fifth, and sixth, follow the flags, above the turn of the wing to the shoulder. These flags, as they are too small, cannot be imped ; and therefore exact care must be taken to preserve them. But the train feathers may be imped ; and, to this purpose, you must have by you faulcon and tercel wings and
trains,

trains, or those of any other hawks you happen to keep.

To remedy misfortunes of this sort, when they befall your hawk, you are to be provided with needles of the following shape. Take a bit of iron-wire two inches in length, and with a file wear it down into a triangular form, sharpened at both ends. Then cut through, with a very sharp knife, the feather which is damaged, in the place where you think it strongest, taking all care in the cutting of it, that you take off none of the plumes on either side from the piece you leave in the wing or train of the hawk. This done, get a corresponding feather, and from it cut off a piece, of the exact length of that which you have cut from the damaged feather, taking here the greatest care also that you cut off none of the plumes on either side of this piece. Next, thrust an inch of the needle into the part of the damaged feather which remains in the bird, and force on the other inch the piece which is to supply the place of that which was damaged, till both meet exactly together. Thus, in each part, there will be just an inch of the needle, and the

the feather will look as intire, and be as strong, as if it had never been broken. The needle must not be too small, for fear the new piece turn on it, nor too thick, lest it split both parts of the feather; and it must be wetted with salt and water that it may rust, and so hold both parts the better together. The faulconer, if he is not accustomed to imping, will do well to practise it on some useles feathers before he try it on his hawk, lest his want of skill should spoil her. Imping, I know by experience, will restore a hawk to the use of her principal feathers, after being broken, and enable her to fly as well as ever she did before her mischance.

There is another way of imping, when the feather is broken at the quill, where a needle is of no service. When this is the case, cut the quill nicely round, and fill it with a wooden pin which will exactly fill it; but beware not to thrust it so far in, as to hurt the hawk where the feather adheres to her flesh. Then take a corresponding feather, the quill of which is also nicely rounded, and put it on the other end of the pin, pressing it onward till it meet the quill
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Of the hawk. To fasten them the better, dip the pin, before you join the quills by it, in ising-glass glue, and afterwards set your hawk in a dark place, till the whole harden and grow firm. This way of imping, however, is less secure than that by the needle. Yet this trouble is worth the taking only when your hawk is remarkably good; otherwise you need not keep her to the following year, as you can have red hawks from the cyrie about the end of May.

C H A P. XXI.

Of the Haggard Faulcon.

HAVING now treated, at a considerable length, of the faulcon from the cyrie, I proceed to discourse of the same bird as taken wild from the sky. This hawk, reared by nature, is strong, spirited, and patient of every sort of weather. She ranges, uncontrollable, over sea and land; and seizes for her habitation those places which best please her fancy. Such is her terror, that

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the tercel, her natural companion, dares not to approach her but in the gentle season of love; and even then, he is so overawed, that he courts her favour by the timorous and winning marks of intire submission. There is no bird the object of her fear; and it is not till after frequent defeats, that she declines the battle with those which are actually beyond her power. These excepted, the rest are her prey as they happen to fall in with her flight; particularly green plovers and pigeons, as they are in greatest plenty. She does not obtain her food but by hard flying; and this exercise, as it is wholly under her own regulation, is so far from being injurious to her, that it preserves her in perfect health and vigour. Glut in her stomach, and short-wind, both caused by rest, or ill-managed exercise, and not so easily cured as prevented, are disorders she is unacquainted with in the wide range of the air. She is her own physician, not only in exercise, but also by feeding on the mustard-feed and carlock she finds in the crops of the pigeons when they are her prey, and which are to her in the place of medicine. Thus she is evermore in strength, subject to hardly any other disease than old age, and in danger

get form no other quarter than the resentment of man.

The way in which the haggard falcon manages herself is that we ought to follow, as nearly as we can, in training her from the eyrie, or in treating her when she comes wild into our hands. I have already made the former part of this observation, in discoursing of the falcon gentle, and shall endeavour to illustrate the remaining part of it in what I have to say concerning the haggard falcon. Let me just add, towards the further elucidation of what I have formerly said on this head, that, without frequent flights, it is impossible to have a good hawk. She grows useless by constant rest; and therefore it must be often interrupted by exercise. The falconer must have a perpetual eye on her, observing her flights, her suppers, her digestion, her casting, her muling, and slicing, whether often and drooping, which is dangerous; as by catching heat, after her drawing, while she is in her grease, or by some tedious flight, flown before she be thoroughly clean, by receiving a great gorge after the same, which occasions the cray and filanders, which proceed from the cold
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and dulness of the stomach, not kindly digesting what it receiveth.—Now I go on to unfold the method of reclaiming her.

C H A P. XXII.

Of the Manner of reclaiming the Haggard Falcon.

HAGGARDS are taken by art. Fix a pigeon by a string on the ground which you know to be frequented by wild hawks; and having spread your net near the pigeon, conceal yourself out of sight. A haggard perceiving the fowl will come close down on it; and the moment you see her footed, pull the net over her, and take her up.

When you have got a haggard by this or by any other stratagem, you will find her full of meat; therefore your best way is to set her in a dark place, in order to keep her from beating, till she have emptied herself. Next morning slit her; that is, slit her eye-lids not quite close together, and carry her all day on your fist.

fit. Set her by you in the night, with a piece of twine tied to her foot, which you will pull now and then, to keep her from sleeping; and at the same time call to her. When you discover, by stroking her with a feather, that she has left off starting, you are to accustom her to the ruffer-hood.

The method of treating her when taken empty is the same with this now laid down; for she is on these occasions angry and fretful, and thereby subject to diseases.—A feather is much better than your hand to stroke her withal; because it feels soft and gentle, and is therefore more agreeable to her. When she endures it easily, you are mildly and quickly to pull off and put on her hood at proper intervals of time. You are also gradually to slacken the string, and to hold this course till she take to feeding. You are to give her meat often, but in small bits; and the best time for feeding her is just before taking off her hood, and just before putting it on, in order to make it agreeable to her. All the while you are to use your voice to her, and no longer than till she has done feeding,
that

that it may be a signal to her of your going to feed her.

When you have brought her to endure the hood, and feed with courage, you are to teach her to jump to your fist. Set her on a perch so high that you may be under her sight, because she will be afraid, and beat, if she see you above her; then unstrike her hood, and lure her with a bit of meat, using your voice at the same time, and she will fly directly to your hand. Then, while she feeds, you are to hood her.

Proceed in this kind way till you have rendered her familiar, and made her stomach perfect; above all things taking care not to disgust her at you. The stomach is the principle of her obedience; and therefore it ought to be carefully kept sound, ripe, and sharp.

Now you may venture to pull off her hood, and let her sit bare-faced by you. If you then perceive in her any signs of impatience or uneasiness, in order to put her into good humour, offer
her

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her a bit of meat, using your voice at the same time. This done, if she readily jump to your fist and take the meat, it is the proper time to accustom her to the lure.

As soon as your hawk comes readily in the creance to the lure furnished with meat, it will then be proper to shew her a live fowl at it. When she has killed the bird, and eaten the head, take her gently up with a bit of meat, and, while she is feeding, put on her hood. Then lure her again to the dead pelt, and do so two or three times only; for she will at last discover your purpose, and, being unwilling to be deprived of her prey, she will learn to drag it from you. When you take her prey often from her, she will feel herself injured, and begin to hate you.

To lure her often at one time, and at her first entrance, is the way to have her soon ready for game; but use the lure no oftener than I have directed. To use it oftener, is more hurtful to a field-hawk than to a river one, for the reason now given, that it renders her inclined to carry.
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Therefore, after she comes willingly to the lure; it is high time to lure her loose to live fowls. You must let her seize on them, and kill them, one after another, even at your feet, for six days together, taking care to have her carried by a person who has skill to let her in with her head right towards you. Lure her at a small distance, till her stomach be perfect, and herself very ready to answer; for, otherwise, she may spy something else out of her way which she likes better, and so check for that time, which would much hurt her, though she should be recovered again.

While she is on the ground plucking herself, or feeding, be sure you always walk around her, using your voice, and giving her bits with your hand. Continue to treat her in this manner all the time of her making, till you have won her to lean and bend her body to your hand, and to shew herself at least willing to bring you whatever she has in her foot.

Now it will be proper to spring her up some live fowls as she comes to you between your assistant and the lure; and take care they be given
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in a long creance, that she may not kill them far from you. Contrive it so, that she may rake them over your head, and fall near you ; for, by this means, she will be familiarised to your presence, and do her business in it with courage. But, were she to see you, while she is sitting, coming at a great distance, she would be ready, through fear, to stare at you, and to drag, or even to forsake her prey altogether. For want of attention to this direction, many hawks have been rendered useless. Having, in this manner, bestowed half a dozen fowls on your hawk, you may, in the evening, suffer her to fly about you, holding her with your voice and lure as near you as you can, that she may pursue her game even over your head. When she is in the air, and, her head right in, throw her up a live fowl ; and when she has killed it, be sure to reward her well ; and your generosity will hinder her from dragging or carrying. Evermore remember to draw in your hawk by the creance with great gentleness, and to treat her so on every other occasion, as the best way to gain her affection. By this method, she will be so far from dragging, that she will meet you with the dead fowl of her own ac-

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cord, satisfied with the piece she knows you are to give her.

C H A P. XXIII.

Of the ill Qualities of Hawks, and how they are to be cured.

IT is of great importance to understand the disposition of your hawk, in order to train her up with success. There are some hawks which, after your utmost pains to breed them properly, will abandon you the moment they are at liberty. Your black and swarthy-plumed hawks have most commonly this untractable temper. They are indeed birds of metal and high flight, but impatient of controul, and difficult to be brought under subjection.

To reclaim your hawk from this wandering disposition, you are to abate her pride with washen meat and casting, paying always a proper regard to the nature of the weather. If it be soft and
mild,

mild, you can do her no hurt by keeping her pretty low, till she amend her bad manners ; and then you are to raise her gradually to her proper pitch. But, if the weather be cold and violent, you must beware of bringing down her flesh too quickly, and of keeping it too long down.

This done, take a staunch make-hawk, and, in the evening, throw up a fowl to her when you have sent her to the air. After she has stooped once or twice, and is just about to kill it, stand under the wind with your hawk, let her see the fowl struck, and go to the quarry. If she fly in with impetuosity, and seize the fowl with courage, in this case, you are to cross the wings of the fowl to hinder it from beating against your hawk, and suffer both her and the make-hawk to feed a few minutes together on it. Then, with clean meat, gently take up your make-hawk, and leave the quarry to the other, that she may take her pleasure on it. But beware she take no pile or pelf, which would glut her ; but reward her with clean meat as she sits on the fowl ; and thus treat her three or four times.

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This kind of hawk is only proper for water-fowl; and, if the next time you carry her to the brook, she fly eagerly with the make-hawk at her prey, you may hope well of her for this sport. But, if she fly away after all your pains in this way, you are to consider her as irreclaimable.

There is another sort of hawks which are of a mild disposition, easily managed, and brought to your wishes in making them. Spring up a couple of fowls, throw off your make-hawk at them, and, after she has stooped once, or is just going to do so, let in your other hawk. If she look keenly on the make-hawk, and contend in flight with her, let her fly on till she has almost overtaken her. Then shew her the fowl, if you did not so before, and let her still contend for it with her antagonist; and so much the better if they kill it at the next down-come. This will give your young hawk great heart, and make her fly with more eagerness another time. A hawk ought to be always served, if possible, before she grow weary; for much fatigue is apt to disgust her, even when successful.

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There is a third sort of hawks which are made without much trouble, but are, on trial, found to be of an aspiring temper, which is apt to spurn at obedience. To a hawk of this character, little liberty is to be allowed while you are making her; she must not be indulged in either very high or very extensive flights, but be kept as close by you as possible. For, otherwise, when she comes to be well blooded on fowl, you never can command her flights; nor will she mind a make-hawk, but look for her prey in her own way, as if she were wild. If you would therefore gain her affection, you must shew her game very speedily, else she will seek it for herself, regardless of your attention.

There is a fourth sort of hawks, which are fair plumed, that are very bold and spirited, and, when skilfully reclaimed, have much attachment. One of these, let in with other hawks, will be reclaimed with two or three quarries; but, if you have no other hawks, greater trouble is requisite to make them by themselves. In this case, they must be strong, and their stomachs eager to urge them on.

Chuse

Chuse that hour of a fine evening, when all check is past; and know also of a couple of small fowls in a brook, where you may not be perceived by them.—Large waters, and many strong fowls, give much fatigue to a young hawk. Then throw off your hawk as near them as you can conveniently, that she may be but a short while on wing before she spy them. If she fly hard and close, she will bring down one of them at the second stoop; for the impetuosity of a hawk terrifies her prey, and brings it the sooner into her power. But, if she fail, have in your pocket a fowl ready to throw up to her, before she have tired herself too much in pursuit of the one you sprung to her from the brook. That she will easily overtake; and it will serve to put her into spirit after her fruitless chase.

Continue to treat her in this way, while she flies solitarily, and she will soon come to your mind; for nothing so much hurts a young hawk's keenness as many toilsome stoops to no purpose.

C H A P.

C H A P. XXIV.

Of Bathing and Weathering Hawks.

HAWKS that are perfectly sound, seldom shew any inclination for the bath; but, when disease heightens the natural heat of their constitution, they are very desirous of it.

A hawk which flies at water-fowl is so often wetted in chace of her prey, that she needs no other bathing than she receives on these occasions. But water ought to be set by other hawks; and when they bathe, let them dry themselves in the air, if the weather is temperate. But, if it is cold, it is necessary to dry her at such a distance from the fire, as will bring the heat of it nearest to the mild warmth of the sunny air. Then set her on a perch where the cold cannot reach her, and let her come no more abroad that day or night. Too hot a fire would over-dry her feathers, and also overheat her body;

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body ; two bad effects, which are carefully to be avoided.

Whereas the haggard is reared by her dam in the open air, on the tops of high mountains, and afterwards exposed to all sorts of weather ; therefore you must fall in somewhat with her nature in this respect.

The evening and the morning are the proper seasons for giving her the weather or the air, and then before she is fed. You are also to weather her in her hood, in which she will sit quiet and peaceable ; but, when she is bare-faced, she will beat and struggle, to the great danger of hurting herself, as well as of relapsing into her natural wildness.

After she has been sufficiently weathered, you are to feed her with clean meat, on your fist, and then to hood her, as before.

C H A P.

C H A P. XXV.

Of the Times when Haggards are to be taken into the Mew; and how to prepare them for it.

ABOUT the first of March haggards leave the countries abroad, where they had spent the winter, prompted by nature to return to their eyries for the deed of generation.

This is the time when old haggards are to be set down in the mew, and must be fed high, to preserve them from languishing under confinement, as also to raise them to their natural violence for their kind.

Intermewed haggards, being stronger to resist the incitements of nature, may be flown to about the middle of March, and are then to be set down.

The passenger soar-faulcons, being young, are more delicate and tender than the rest, and

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must therefore be better fed than the other mewed hawks. They are impatient of confinement; but with proper management may be made excellent hawks, and flown a month longer than the others. The first of April is the time when they are to be set down in the mew.

When you prepare your hawk for the mew, you must raise her flesh gently, never giving or suffering her to take great gorges, for fear of surfeits. While she flew, this caution was less necessary, because her exercise enabled her to digest her plentiful diet, and your care to give her stones, kept her stomach free of glut to harm her. But as your intent is now only to raise her flesh, to prepare her for the mew, to give her the same quantity of food you used to give her, without the same exercise to digest it, will overload her stomach, and, instead of fatness, will fill her with distempers.

Now, if you have kept her clean during the flying season, you may set her down on two meals a day, of hot and bloody meat, proportioned

tioned exactly to her power of digestion. When in a week or two you perceive her mended, you are to feed her only once a-day; and then, if you give her young pigeons flesh, so much the better; but be sure to pluck off the feathers, for fear of check. If that flesh is not to be had, you must give her such other stronger food as you have, but in smaller quantity, according to its strength.

By this preparation your hawk will be soon in health and flesh for the mew; but, without it, is in imminent hazard of perishing by indigestion.

C H A P. XXVI.

Of putting your Hawk into the Mew; and of her Treatment there.

BEFORE you put your hawk into the mew, clean her from all sorts of vermin, such as mites and lice, with which she may happen to be troubled, and will hinder her from thriving

ving in the mew. Take off her old jesses, and give her a pair of new ones, which may be strong enough to last till you fet her down again; for to put them on when you draw her would make her struggle, and thus perhaps run her grease. Keep the mew sweet and clean with air and sweeping; and often examine your hawk's casting and mutes, to discover the state of her health. Let her always have plenty of fresh and clear water by her, and also of pebbles in gravel, that she may take, in her uneasinesses, the remedies to which nature directs her. Clean the meat you shoot for her from the black and bruised flesh which is spoiled by the lead and gun-powder; for it is far from being wholesome,

The greatest cleanliness is to be observed in every thing about her, and is exceedingly conducive to her health,

C H A P. XXVII.

How the Hawk is to be taken from the Mew.

WHEN you take your hawk from the mew, you must take care to set her on a perch, with as little beating or struggling as possible, to prevent her throwing herself into a heat. Set her where she may see and hear people, without being disturbed or exasperated by them. Then take her very softly on your fist, carry her lightly up and down, and stroke her gently with a feather. When she grows impatient and restless, let her directly down on her perch; and proceed in this mild way till she admit of greater familiarities; but, above all things, take care to keep her quiet.

To reclaim and enseat a hawk from the mew require the highest care and attention, on account of her fatness; and whatever overheats her does, for that reason, endanger her life.

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When, by your patient and soft usage, you have brought her to eat, you are to feed her twice a day with new meat, cleansed from the blood in fair water, allowing her just as much, and no more, than she can easily digest.

For the first week, or ten days, give her neither casting nor stones; but, after that term, give her every night half a dozen of stones, after she has discharged her supper from her gorge into the pannel; and these she will cast very early next morning.

The third week, you may begin to give her every night a casting, gradually augmenting the quantity of her meals, and not washing her food quite so hard as at first, paying always a suitable regard to the strength of her stomach. This regimen you are to observe till, and during all the flying season.

Stones and casting are not to be given her the first week, because she is then unruly and full of grease; and, were she to be ever so little heated in this condition, she would probably never cast them,

them, and so perish. The second week she is become less unruly, and has discharged some of her fat; and therefore is able to receive and cast stones. The third week her stomach has recovered its proper order, and consequently she will cheerfully take her casting every night.

At this time, you shall not find by her casting, or mutes, much grease come from her; nor yet observe that she reclaims and enseams according to your expectations. But there is still grease in her, though, for want of exercise, it does not appear; and therefore you must begin to lure her, and give her the benefit of her wings, at first, in short and easy flights, which are to be by degrees lengthened, according as her health increases. Give her no stones in the day, because then they hinder her from taking food with safety, but at night, when they are very powerful in removing the glut and ill humours of the hawk.

When you give her casting of flannel or cotton, take care to have them washen as clean as they can be; for, when they are nasty, the filth of either disorders the stomach of the hawk, and
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makes her sometimes cast it up next morning all black and tawny, with her meat undigested.

The best time to give this sort of casting is when the hawk is in scaming, and foul in her grease; for then her disordered stomach is less apt to be affected by it, than when she is in a state of pure health. Even when she is in her grease, it sometimes forces her to cast in the morning, before her time, when her supper is not yet perfectly digested. When this happens, her casting is unwrapped, of a tawny colour, and filled with muddy water; on which account, flannel or cotton ought to be given only on light suppers, with some plumage, but never on a great gorge. When, in a morning, she makes a loose unwrapped casting of plumage, give her a little knot, with stones, to bring away straggling feathers out of the pannel.

From the casting, you may learn the state of your hawk's body. If the casting looks black and scorched, she is hot and dry; give her then no more flannel or cotton, but plumage instead of it. If, from the casting, instead of a clear water,
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which is a sign of health, you squeeze a roaping froth, this is a sign of great heat and drought; which, however, is the less to be feared, if the casting be wrapped. This is most commonly the case with hawks which are flown before they be thoroughly cleaned. But they may be cured by easy gorges of good meat, with very pure water along with it, during a week, without any casting, but half a dozen of stones, with the stump of a wing, every night after she has put away her supper.

If this course 'do not restore her health in a week, continue it till it have the desired effect; and then cease to give your hawk any more woollen casting, as it appears unnatural to her.

Further, with respect to the giving of stones ; it is best to give them at night to haggards and ramage-hawks ; because these birds will not be so well reclaimed in a short time, but that they will have pride and a stirring humour in them, especially in the morning after their night-rest. To remove these ailments, it is proper you set them in a dark place, and give them stones at night ; for

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then

then your hawks being quiet, do not stir, beat, or strain their bodies, while they are loaded with them. I know by experience, contrary to the opinion of some, that the stones will not over-heat her when she is in this condition.

When you have brought your hawk to perfect health and flying, neglect not to give her stones after strong food, to purge away the ill humours that will be bred by it in her stomach. If you imagine her greasy after a long flight, give her stones after a light supper;—let her plume herself, and set her up warm.

Upon the whole, you ought never to fly your hawk from the mew, till by gentle treatment you have reclaimed her, and by tender food and moderate exercise you have thoroughly cleansed her.

C H A P.

C H A P. XXVIII.

How it may be known whether a Hawk be properly Enseamed.

WHEN your hawk is much inclined to bowing, this is a sign that her body is too hot. If this heat arises from foulness and greafe remaining in her after she has been flown, her mouth and throat will appear whitish, her breath smell disagreeably, and her mutes will have the bluish colour of stale skimmed milk.

If, from too great haste to have your hawk in flying order, you bring her quickly down by scouring and medicines, you will, instead of enseaming her, reduce her to a state of feebleness, wherein she will be useless. The art and skill of a falconer is to keep his hawk high of body, when she is scoured and enseamed, that she may be able to fly with force; and, if he cannot keep his hawk in this condition, he is no falconer.

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In this case, you will observe her mutes mingled with a kind of curdled matter, of a white colour, which shews her not only afflicted with heat, but also with something of the cray.

Hawks of all kinds contain and produce within them a kind of watery flime, which, while it is in moderate quantity, is necessary to their health; but hurtful when redundant. Plumage is the natural cure of this redundancy.

Very often it happens that the hawk appears to the eye thoroughly enfeamed, when she is not in that condition. Nothing is found in her mutes or castings which looks like greasiness; and hence a hasty falconer concludes she is in fine order. But this only proves her pannel is clean; and this part is generally cleansed by casting, stones, and good meat, before the rest of the body, which, after all these means, is still foul. If the hawk be heated in this situation, her life is still greatly endangered; and therefore time and gentle exercise must be taken to enfeam her body, after the pannel is put into order. Too much haste is here to be avoided;

voided; for a hawk drawn from the mew cannot be well prepared for flight in less than the space of four weeks.

Hawks which are sooner flown at game may indeed escape with life after being over-heated; but their life is thenceforth good for nothing. After their death, you will discover, on opening them, that they perished by being over-heated; for you will see their grease sticking, of a blue colour, to their sides, and run in hard lumps.

Upon the whole, whatever appearances of health your hawk may exhibit after stones and casting, you are not to consider her as really enfeamed till she is set to her wings, and exercised gradually from easy to long flights. Then will she break grease, and be prepared to your mind throughout her whole body.

C H A P. XXIX.

Of the Merlin and Hobby.

THE merlin and hobby are nearly of the same size and disposition; the former builds her nest in heath, and the latter on a tree. The merlin, the diminutive of the falcon, is capable of being made exceedingly manny and tame. She is best when bred from the cyrie. She will kill partridges; but excells every hawk at larks and snipes. She will fly at heck all the year round, except two months, when she is taken down to the mew, at cawking-time. Her weakness is her chief defect, which hinders her from keeping the fist in windy weather.

She is to be trained in every respect like the falcon. You may fly her in the forenoon till ten o'clock; give her rest in the heat of the day; and from two o'clock you may fly her till sun-set. If you diet her properly, there is no hawk able to give better sport.

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You may enter her at quail; but she gives exquisite pleasure at the lark, mounting to a very high place, if yet an eyes. In a plain country, she will drive the lark so fast in the air, both making, the one stoops, and the other buckles, for a long time; and, if the lark get down, she darts into the door or window of a house for safety; but never takes to a thicket or bush, she being a long-winged bird, and always sits on the open ground.

As to the hobby; just before this bird is able to perch on the side of her nest, take her away to another you have provided for her on a tree in a garden, where she may be out of harm. There feed her with bits from the point of a stick, sharpened for this purpose, till she is able to stand firmly on her legs, and pull hard at her meat. This artificial nest is not to be above the reach of a man.

Then begin to lure her thence by your voice to your fist; and a single foot is enough at first. As she increases in strength, you are to increase the distance, till she obey your voice from as far
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as she is able to hear it, and wait on you in the air wherever you would have her.

When she is full-summed, dress her in jesses, bewits, and bells, and accustom her to the hood and fist by gentle usage. Then train her with larks; never giving her any from the hand or fist, but allowing her to kill two or three on the lure. Afterwards, tie one of them to a creance of brown thread, and let her fly at it, after it has got to the height of a tall tree. When she has killed two or three this way, she will go eagerly to her business, affording immense diversion to the spectators.

Being thus thoroughly trained, you may permit her to fly at heck continually at those times you have no use for her. But take care that, for some days before, you lure her by your voice from about a quarter of a mile, and there feed and leave her. When she is fed, she will directly return to the place where she was trained up at first, that is, to her heck.

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On resting days, after her gorge; she will soar at noon out of sight; and, by these high flights, will gain as thorough a knowledge of the country as any haggard. There is, on this account, no danger of her being lost when she remains behind you fu'-footed within four or five miles of your residence; for, after she has finished her meal, she will return to her heck. And in this course she is to continue till the cawking season, that is, till the first of March, when she is taken down for two months.

C H A P. XXX.

Of the Gyr-faulcon.

The gyr-faulcon is a bird of passage, her cyrie being in Moscovy, Norway, and Prussia. She is of a fierce and fiery nature, very hardly managed and reclaimed; but, being once overcome, proves an excellent hawk, scarce refusing to strike at any thing. She does not naturally fly the river, but at heron, and other big game. In going up to

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her gate, she does not hold the course or way that other hawks do, but climbs up upon her train. When she finds any fowl, and 'as soon as she has reached her, pulls her down, if not at first, yet at the second or third encounter.

You train this bird just as you do the falcon. You must make her very gentle both at home and abroad, before you enter her at game. After you have gained this point, you are to teach her to come to the dead pelt of hens, fowl, heron, or any other flesh of the same kind; for, being dead, it will not overheat her, nor tempt her to surfeit herself. You must allow her to touch none of the flesh, except from your hand. All the while she is pluming, cheer her with your voice as you go about her, and sit by her on your knees. By this means she will look for her food from your own hand only, never minding what she has in her foot, and be entirely reclaimed from carrying.

The gyr-falcon flies with great spirit at heron; but always take care to give her the due reward the moment she brings down the fowl.

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This shews the necessity of training a hawk well at first; for, if she be well made at the beginning, she is everlastingly made.

Before you spring any fowls, let her kill half a dozen at the lure, close by you, having a pair of short creances at it, to prevent her carrying. For when she sees the fowl fluttering, she is apt to come down rapidly, in order to rake it off, but the creances hinder her: And so she neither crosses your design, nor is put into a pet by your opposition. When she has the fowl, go gently in to her; give her nice bits of meat; and she will leave it untouched, to come to your fist.

This method, diligently observed, will effectually reclaim the haggard gyr-falcon to fly well, and kill fowl, but especially to pursue the heron. This is the game at which they give the best diversion, by the stateliness of their flights; and intermewed birds are the most proper for it. These, as they are not yet habituated to any particular sort of prey, may be easily reclaimed by the following course.

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First, You are to consider, that gyr-faulcons newly taken from the air are full-fed; and therefore you are not too suddenly to change their natural way of living, giving them neither too hard food nor labour till they are mewed. Hawks in good plight will not fly at game which they see cannot be easily come at, but wait for a better opportunity. This is the case with old hawks; but young unexperienced birds will fly at any disadvantage. This caution of old hawks robs the falconer of his sport; but, to make them more eager, he needs only to lessen the quantity of their food; and then they will fly boldly at every thing he springs to them. Yet this diminution must be made with prudence, for fear of weakening the hawks. The flight at the heron depends entirely on the eye and force of the hawk, and can receive no hinderance or encouragement from the falconer, who has only to view and admire her motions. It may be just observed, that no hawk is so liable as the gyr-falcon to perish by being overheated. And,

Secondly,

Secondly, If your hawk be a fresh haggard, or nearly such, she will be the better able to endure fatigue. But you are carefully to study whether her taste be already formed to other game than you would fly her at. Should this be the case, you are to use all your art to break off all her natural habits, and to make her take on those which are most agreeable to your own will.

After the season of making and flying is over, your hawk is to be gradually filled up to full flesh, and mewed with all care. As the gyrfalcon is a heavy bird, green fods, often shifted, are the best perch for her; for their moistness and softness save her feet from being hurt by her own weight. Set water and stones by her, and give her the whole range of the mew to move in; and she will manage herself better than any person can do.

When you take her again from the mew, you are to have fair, jolly, capacious ruster-hoods, through which you can give her plumage, bones, or stones, to purge her, as also washed meat.

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There is much danger in enfeaming her; and therefore this operation should be gradually performed.

The shortest space wherein a gyr-falcon can be made ready for the lure from the mew is six weeks; for her life is in danger if she receive the least heat in her grease. If all due care is taken of her, she will continue good for twenty years. She is indeed excellent at the heron or kite; but if you want to train her to the river, you are referred to the directions given on this subject with regard to the haggard falcon,

C H A P, XXXI.

Of the Goshawk.

THE Goshawk is found in the north of both Scotland and Ireland, where she builds her nest in a tree. Her nature is hot, and constitution stronger than that of any other hawk. She kills at the bout. Being short winged, she is not to be
flown

flown at heck. No hawk is more ravenous, nor more forgetful of her keeper, if she happen to get a day or two out of his sight.—She is never liable to the crock, filanders, and liver-shot, infirmities which all other hawks are subject to. When you get a goshawk from the cage, she is generally much hurt by carriage and improper food ; and therefore needs cleansing previous to your beginning to reclaim her, which you may give her, without medicines or scouring.

You must procure her a good stomach before you give her casting ; and this you will effect by good meat, clean washed and dressed, given in gorges suited to her digestion. To accustom her to the hood, slip it easily on while she is feeding, and at moderate intervals take it off, to give her little bits ; and ever steal it gently on while she swallows them. About an hour, or little more, after supper, give her casting, and she will throw it up in the morning ; and, after a few days of this care, she will take it herself. Give her not a bit of meat soon above her casting ; for this endangers her life by choaking,

ing, and at least never misses of making her sick.

When she is well enfeamed and in actual flying, give her plumage every night immediately after she is fed up; but, when she rests, very clean meat is all that she needs till the morning, when you are to give her prepared hare's foot. Woolen casting is improper. After a plentiful supper, it fatigues her stomach, and hinders her digestion; and thus comes up before the natural time. If you examine it then, it is of an adust colour, clammy in its texture, and sometimes mixed with dirty bloody water. It has been known to grow into solid hard ball, called a cullion, which she is not able to throw up, and so kills her. Something further concerning this shall be mentioned hereafter.

The food proper for her during the flying season is good meat well washed, and afterwards squeezed in a clean towel, till the water run all out, except she is sick and weak. Yet, if she is very hard-flown, and much fatigued, you must give her thrice a week the neck of a partridge
or

or woodcock to supper, warm in the blood. But when she is set to rest, let her meat be very well washed, and hard squeezed, and dried a little, in order to keep her stomach sharp, and her temper obedient. If the weather is severe, the hawk is apt to grow benumbed and dispirited; and therefore you must not then fly her with an empty stomach, but every now and then give her bits to support her strength and courage during her flights. She is also subject to flatulencies, which appear by the swelling of the gorge, and her croaking: And these, as well as lowness of flesh, are remedied by diet suited to the weather, to her labour, and to her digestion. If these flatulencies are not guarded against, they bring on the cray and other infirmities: And, if her flesh falls low, it is very difficult to raise it again in the cold season. Proportion her diet, while she is hunting, to the length or shortness of her toil; so as that she may never be empty, and yet so as that her appetite may be sharp, and her strength sufficient for flight.

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There is a considerable difference between old and new-killed meat. The former has lost its nourishing qualities, which no washing can ever restore to it ; and, instead of strengthening your hawk, it reduces her to leanness, and many other diseases. Hot meat, on the contrary, though washed and squeezed, still retains enough of nutriment, and promotes health, and prevents disorders.

Take all pains to gain the love and familiarity of your hawk ; and, for this purpose, never take her up on your fist without whistling, and using your voice, and giving her a stump or bit of meat to please her. But harshness will disgust her, and make her hate you ; for she cannot bear to be opposed stubbornly, or contradicted. You must also observe to give her dinner, while you are enseaming her, not all at once, but in small bits, at several intervals. To give it all at once will retard her making ; but, to distribute it, will accelerate her making.

C H A P.

C H A P. XXXII.

To reclaim the Goshawk taken from the Cage.

To reclaim the goshawk from the cage, observe the following directions. Give her a fortnight's carriage, or more, in her ruffer-hood, always stroking and soothing her with a feather, till she bear your hand. Feed her with clean washed meat; and keep her by you on a perch in the night-time, ever chirping and whistling to her, in order to prevent her from sleeping. Thus you will put her stomach in good order, and render her obedient to your will.

Then you may take off her ruffer-hood, and put on another of the ordinary fort, which fits her easily and neatly. To accustom her to this hood, give her a bit of meat every time you put it on, and, in a short time, she will make no resistance. Then set her on a high warm perch, in a dark place, (for cold gives her cramps), to sleep two
or

or three hours. Afterwards lure her with a bit of meat, as also with your voice, to your fist; and, dividing her meal into several parts, feed her at proper intervals with it while her hood is on. Follow the same practice in the day-time, as the best method to make her fond of her hood. If she is very shy, do not meddle with her but by candle-light, and at meals.

Last of all, you are to teach her to jump to your fist; which she will do readily, if her stomach is in good order, and you shew her a bit of meat. This you can do when you are feeding her with the bits into which her meal is divided; and you may bring her with these from twenty to forty yards distance from you for a fortnight. In that time, she will become quite bold and familiar, and be forever hindered from carrying. If she happen to be brought too low, she will never after enjoy her health.

Now that you have brought your hawk to this pitch of perfection, you must further breed her to be familiar with your spaniels. At her meals, draw the dogs together, and, stooping,
feed

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feed your hawk on your fist among them. You are then to have three or four couples about you, to prevent her learning to know the particular one you take to the field with her. At the same time, have, in a short creance, the dead pelt of a pullet or hen, which you are to throw among them, that she may fly from your fist, and chop among them and seize it. Suffer her to plume a while on it; then take her up again, with a stump, to your fist, and throw the pelt as before, encouraging her to fly after it.

Continue this course daily, till you find her venturing fearlessly among them, and you will soon perceive her intimidating the dogs, who will immediately give away as soon as they see her coming among them. Without all this preparation, she would have been of no use to you.

CHAP.

C H A P. XXXIII.

Of entering the Goshawk.

WHEN you carry your hawk to the field for the first time, beware of flying her near dove-cotes or farm-houses, lest she should check at pigeons or poultry; a fault from which she is hardly or ever to be reclaimed.

To enter her at game, take with you three or four live partridges; send your servant with one of them to the cover, which he shall beat with a pole, as if he were springing fowls, calling at the same time to the dogs; then let him slip away his partridge dextrously, when he sees the hawk's head right in, hollowing to her to raise her attention to it. When she has killed it, run in, and take care that neither the dogs, nor any thing else, may frighten her from her prey; but let her plume it, and take blood, having the spaniels all the while by her. After she has eaten the head, which you are to teach her to dispatch on the
ground

ground in her foot, throw the dead pelt of the partridge among the dogs, and let her take it in her short creance, that she may not carry it from you. While she sits on it pluming, give her her supper. By a few lessons of this sort she will come to distinguish a partridge at first sight, and fly readily at it; but you must not for the first year allow her to see pheasants at all, for fear of putting her out of conceit with partridges.

In the beginning of the season, take care not to fly her at the young partridges, till they be at the distance of two or three hundred yards from you, to prevent her killing them too suddenly, and without any trouble. Besides, the partridges grow daily stronger towards winter; and therefore, if you allow her to kill them at your foot at first, she will not pursue them when in winter they are able to fly with their utmost force. She will turn from them as soon as they get a few yards before her beyond the usual distance, and, from despair of overtaking them, will take her station on a tree.

It

It is a fault to which this hawk is subject, that she sits still on the ground, instead of waiting on in the air, after she has driven a partridge into the cover. Hence it happens, that she never sees the partridge after the dogs have retrieved it; and so it is lost. To amend this fault, take her up by the shoulders in both your hands, and throw her quickly on the nearest tree or hedge. This done, call your dogs, and spring the partridge under her eye, or as near as you can; she will then fly at it, and give you far more sport than you could have had by her killing it just before her in the cover. Continue this practice; and the fear of being tossed up, joined to the hopes of game, will soon induce her to get on high of her own accord.

This is the fault of a young hawk; and you are never to lure her to your fist before she has killed the fowl. Beware of carrying her bare-faced; for the light, making her beat and hale on your hand, tends to weaken her for flight, and render her averse to her hood.

No hawk demands the hood so much as the goshawk, which she ought never to want but at weather and bath.

C H A P. XXXIV.

Of entering the Goshawk at the Cover.

IF you would make your hawk bold to fly at pheasants in thick woods, as she was in the open fields, spring a fowl to her, and send her at it. When you see she has brought it down, command your dogs behind you, lest they run in and rob her; and go you in search of her. But, if she miss it, take her on your fist, or put her on a tree, and spring it again as near her as may be; and if she has killed it, keep your dogs behind, and suffer her to plume it a while. Then walk to her, rustling yourself and dogs through the bushes; and, stooping, give her the head and neck in her foot for her recompence. When she has done, throw the body of the

F f pheasant

pheasant among the dogs, and send her after it, that she may snatch it from them. Make ready her supper, and give her that instead of the pheasant, which you are to steal dextrously from her while she is busy with the other.

The reason why you are to keep the dogs behind you is, besides the danger of their robbing the hawk, to hinder them from disturbing and frightening her at her prey.

This is the course you are to take with the goshawk in flying her at pheasants; and, that you may take it still more successfully, attend to the following preparation, which ought to have stood at the beginning of the chapter.

The pheasants sometimes, instead of flying directly on, take to perch; whence the hawk is to be taught to take them. For this purpose, take a brown chicken with you to the wood in the evening; and, having broke its neck, erect it on the top of a long pole, high enough to be seen by the hawk. Then stirring the pole, so as to give the chicken a fluttering appearance,
and

and at the same time calling to the hawk—she will come directly in, and pull it down. In this case, keep the dogs from molesting her in her descent; and give her leave to plume and divert herself on the fowl. While she is thus engaged, bring the dogs close about her, and let her eat the head and neck among them, as her reward.

By following this method, you will bring your hawk to be so bold, that she no sooner shall see a pheasant go to perch, than she will seize him, and bring him down.

Beware of strange dogs, because they will mar your hawk. One strange and unruly dog will mislead the other dogs; and the hawk will know him, and give way for fear of him. And when they chace in with the hawk and fowl, the strange dog may not only attack, but even tear the hawk and fowl to pieces, and learn the rest to join him.

When a fowl is surpris'd on the ground, and seized by a spaniel, you are not to call down
your

your hawk to it, but throw it up to her, using your voice to excite her attention. If she miss it any how at the first throw, you are to repeat it, until she trusts the fowl, and come down with it. Then give her the usual reward among the dogs.

It were well you accustomed her now and then to this exercise with a pullet, when you have no pheasants. This will learn her to bear the presence and noise of men, horse, and dogs, without being intimidated; for the goshawk is naturally shy and wild.

C H A P. XXXV.

Of the Haggard Goshawk.

THIS hawk is of all others the wildest, and consequently the most difficult to be reclaimed. Hence the greatest care and diligence become necessary to render her manageable.

The

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The same treatment you were directed to give to the hawk from the cage, are you to give her, but with the addition of much more time, patience, and gentleness. She requires all the skill of the most experienced falconer. As in her wild state she is exposed to the rapacity of many enemies, nature and necessity force her to take to the cover with her prey, where she may securely feed on it; and this custom she retains, to the great trouble of the falconer, even after she is reclaimed in a good measure.

The way to cure her of this vexatious fault is, never to feed her in woods or thickets, but to make her attend you to an open field, where there is not any cover to hide her. Call her then to your fist, and feed her with a bit or two on it; after which, put to her leash, and let her eat the rest of her meal on the ground by you, reserving only a stump to lure her to your fist again. Afterwards set her on the ground, and, stooping, convey some bits slyly to her, so that she may hardly perceive your hand, which would cause her strike with her talons at the meat.

By

By carrying on this method, you will gradually wear off her wildness, and take away her inclination to carry and gorge in secret. This accomplished, you may carry her freely to the field, and enter her at partridge, according to the rules already delivered. Only observe, further, that you have her meal ready along with you, and feed her slowly with it, while she is pluming the first fowl she kills; till she have enough; and this also will be a mean to hinder her from carrying to feed herself. She will wait for you, and expect her reward at your hand alone, leaving the fowl to your own disposal.

The goshawk is seldom found fit for both the open country and cover; therefore, if you have one that delights in partridge, keep her for this kind of sport only, and never let her fly at pheasant; for the ease of killing the latter, which is a slow flyer, will make her abandon the former, as it is a swift flyer.

C H A P. XXXVI.

Of flying the Goshawk at Wild Duck, Mallard, Heron, Goose, and Rooks.

DUCKS and mallards delight in ponds and marshes that are surrounded with shrubs and rushes, and grass, where they meet with little molestation.

To train your hawk to this sport, provide three or four tame ducks of the same colour with the wild one, and throw her up one of them for as many days. When she has brought them down, suffer her to plume them at her leisure, and give her the heads and necks for her reward. Then get one or two more, which, on trial, you know to be good flyers, and send one of them with a servant before you, to a pond surrounded with bushes, where he is to lie hid till your arrival. When you come to the
same

same place, strike the bushes with your pole, which is to be a signal to your servant to let off the tame duck into the air, without discovering himself. The hawk, being sharp-set, will take the air directly after her, and bring her down in an instant.

When you have given her a few lessons of this kind, you may boldly enter her at wild game, with assurance of much success. Creep as near as you can to the pond or marsh, holding up your hawk as high as you can, and beating the bushes or sedges, to raise the fowls. As soon as she brings one of them down, run in and cross its wings, that it may not hurt your hawk. Let her plume it, and amuse herself with it, and then reward her as usual.

It will be proper for you to have a swimming spaniel along with you; for, when the hawk is well acquainted with the sport, she will be so ready to rake the fowl as it rises, that they shall both fall into the water together. In this case, the dog either catches and brings out the duck, or sets it to its wings, and gives the hawk another

ther opportunity for seizing it, and receiving her reward.

As to the heron, goose, and rook, you are to teach your hawk to take the two first in the same way you enter her at the last. Get some live rooks, and pull out some of the wing-feathers of one of them, on each side, and set it on the ground. Then unhood your hawk at the distance of about forty paces, and turn her head towards the place where the rook is walking: She will likely fly at it. In this case, let her plume, and be well rewarded on it.

Next, put your rook in a long creance, without any feathers drawn, and peg it into the ground, about a yard or two from the end to which the rook is tied. Keep the other end in your own hand, and, unhooding your hawk, let her fly at the rook. But, before she reaches the rook, pull the creance, by which means you will draw up the peg, and give the rook leave to fly a little way before the hawk reach her. In this manner, you will teach her to seize rooks on wing ever after.

G g

The

The tercel answers best for small birds; but the gofhawk is to be flown at goose or heron, because she is much stronger. These last mentioned birds come into the power of the gofhawk in the same way as the rook; but you must always cross their wings as soon as you can, after they are brought down, lest by their beating they hurt your hawk.

To conclude, you may also fly the gofhawk at hares and rabbits, to which you will enter her, by putting them in a long creance. She kills them at the bout as easily as wild ducks.

C H A P. XXXVII.

Of the Sparhawk.

THE sparhawk is short-winged, the diminutive of the gofhawk, and kills at the bout. She flies at the crow, the rook, the lapwing, the pigeon, the magpy, the sparrow, which she will pursue through the thickest hedges; and par-

particularly at partridges in harvest, from the first of September to November, when the frost sets in, at which time partridges are too strong for them,

She is to be bred from the eyrie or nest, which is found on a tree in our woods; and is to be trained as the goshawk. They are not so easily tamed as merlins, being naturally much wilder. Take care to have her always in company with men, dogs, or horses, to keep, as well as to make her manny.—But, by proper diligence, you may tame even the haggard in ten days, so as she shall come to your fist from a tree. Yet, if she wander a day from you, she will have forgotten you.

There is no hawk which will kill as many partridges in a day as she will; and she flies just as well in the cover as in plain and open ground.

As she is very shy, she must be prepared for the field, the night before you take it, with washen meat, plumage, and casting, to give her stomach

stomach a keen edge; and, as she is a small bird, she must be kept high with nice meat in firm, clean flesh, to enable her to endure fatigue, and to go through her duty with spirit.

To make her fly the better, you must have along with you, in a little box, some fresh butter, mixed up with a little saffron and sugar-candy, which you are to give her either with her meat, or alone. It will keep her head clear, her temper good, her spirit high, and her body from the cray.

The musket is a very small bird; but makes excellent sport at small birds through hedges.

C H A P. XXXVIII.

Of the Lanner and Lanneret.

THE lanner is a hawk very common in most countries, especially in France, making her ey-
rie

rie on lofty trees in forests, or on high cliffs near the sea.

The eyers from the eyrie is of all hawks the most easily tamed to your purpose. She is trained like the faulcon-gentle. You first teach her to come to the lure garnished with meat. Then let her kill two or three fowls at it, but which have some space to flutter about it.

When you have rendered her expert in killing this way, let her be lured in the field from man to man, with a fowl in a creance, from which she cannot carry it off. If she seize it briskly, let her be well rewarded on it; but, after that, let her have no more upward flown fowls from the hand. The reason is this; they become so fixedly attached to any habits they get, that it is impossible to wean them from them afterwards; and, were they accustomed to fowls from the hand, they never would chace them wild in the air. This arises from her phlegmatic temper, which cannot endure the trouble of changing.

Accordingly,

Accordingly, of all hawks, the haggard lanner is the wildest and most difficult to be reclaimed. She is to be made manny much in the same way as you treat the faulcon-gentle, but with infinitely more trouble.

The ramage-lanner is of the same disposition, and requires the same treatment. They are both very subject to the fault of carrying, and cured of it with great difficulty.

The method is, to lure her only once at a time, and to feed her, the moment after you take her from the lure, with small bits from your hand, the spaniels being by you all the while. At her first entering, you are to have but few dogs with you; and these must be gentle and cool, that she may the more easily get acquainted with them: For, if she take fright and hatred at dogs, it is impossible to reconcile her to them, and will ever after carry the instant they come in her sight, and prey on the game she seizes.

Too hard flying, and too low feeding, will much injure any hawk; but they prove destructive to
the

the lanner ; and it is by these extremes that she is generally spoiled. Therefore great care is to be taken to call her from her wings before she grows faint ; and to keep up her flesh with diet suited to her appetite and digestion.

Let her kill fowls in a long creance, hard by you, to accustom her to your presence, and to help her wildness away ; and reward her with the fowls she kills, or with other such meat, washed a little, as you do to the falcon. Then you may put her to the river in company with a good make-hawk ; and, by the force of example, she will become a good river-hawk herself.

C H A P. XXXIX.

Of the Saker.

THIS hawk is to be bred like the falcon-gentle ; but she is much more difficult in training. Her cyrie has not been yet found any where but in the Levantine islands.

She

She is a little longer than the haggard falcon; her plumes rusty and ragged; her foot and beak resemble those of the lanner; her potin-ces short, and her train the longest among all birds of prey. She is very strong and hardy, and will attack all fowls, particularly large ones, as goose, &c. She flies also at pheasant and partridge; and is much less dainty in her diet than long-winged hawks are. She makes excellent sport with the kite, which, as soon as the fowler is thrown off, takes to her wings, going directly to her highest pitch, and making many turns in the air. The many contests betwixt them afford great pleasure to the spectators.

C H A P. XL.

Of the Diseases of Hawks, and their Cure.

HAWKS are subject to various diseases, which are occasioned by various causes; and, these guarded against, their bad effects are prevented.

Hawks

Hawks suffer by cold, especially from water, when they are hot in their grease; by being too hastily enfeamed; by exclusion from the fresh air; by unwholesome food; by being suddenly raised in their flesh; by being brought suddenly low; and by every thing else which is contrary to their nature.

You may discern when your hawk is sick, by her crowcking, and the slackness of her feathers, and the startings of her feet, or legs.—But, to be more particular,

1. *Of a Hawk which retains her Stones too long.*

When your hawk retains her stones beyond the natural period for casting them, you are to keep her strong and full of flesh, and give her the smaller kind of stones, out of fair water, at night. This disorder arises from weakness, and must therefore be cured, not by provocatives to cast, but by time and skillful management.

2. *Of Scourings for Hawks which digest ill.*

Scourings are necessary to hawks when they are foul, and unable to digest their food. The

H h morning

morning is the proper season for giving them this remedy, which ought to be carefully suited to the state of their constitution. To prepare strong hawks for a purge, they must be laboured, eight days before, with carriage, clean food, and casting, to stir them, and loosen the filth in their pannel. This done; feed them in the morning, that they may be empty by eight at night, when you are to give neither bones nor feathers. Then you may give them the scouring, and set them up warm all night, that they may not take cold thro' emptiness.—The following is the receipt for a comforting water, to be given them after the scouring. Take half a dozen bruised cloves, as many thin slices of liquorice, and a little brown sugar-candy. Put all these ingredients into a pint of fair water, and let them steep together all night. Give your hawks a tea-spoonful or two of it, each, early in the morning, with stones; and when they have cast them, they will be in order for a moderate breakfast of good meat. This water, together with the stones, will purge away the remains of the scouring you gave them over night; and it is

is besides an excellent restorative, by itself, to poor and weak hawks.

3. *Of Curing Hawks over-tired on being first entered.*

When your hawk is over-fatigued by severe flights, immediately after being entered, give her the following physic. Take a bottle of claret, and boil it down, on a slow fire, to an English pint, with four ounces of sugar-candy, two drops of saffron, one drop of cinnamon, one drop of mace, and a pepper clove. Let this composition cool; cork it well up in a small bottle; and give your hawk a tea-spoonful of it, to recover her strength and courage.

4. *A General Cure.*

The following medicine is very general, being effectual both in preventing and curing many disorders. Take two drops of saffron, two drops of cinnamon, two drops of mace, six pepper cloves, a little scrape of rhubarb, a little carduus benedictus, the bulk of an egg of wormwood, and as much of rue; which two last ingredients must be dried at the fire. Pound all these in a
mortar

mortar together, and afterwards stir them into a quarter of a pound of butter, perfectly fresh, which has been melted over the fire, and then add to the whole a little rose-water. Lay up this composition for use, in an earthen pot covered with leather, where it will continue good for a year. The quantity of a bean wrought into the same quantity of powdered sugar-candy, is a dose for a falcon, and the half of that is a dose for a tercel.

5. *To cure Hawks suddenly wasted.*

If you perceive your hawk fall suddenly from her healthy plight, into weakness and inward decay, you cannot give her a more gentle and restorative physic than that prescribed No. 3. But, previous to your administering it, you are to feed her at night with the best meat, and give her the proper dose in the morning. During the operation, and till she crave food, you are to set her on a warm brick covered with double woollen cloth, to keep her comfortable. When her appetite is come, you are to give her a little, and often, of the best hot meat, and never without some of the water along with it, mentioned

tioned in No. 2. Thus, with warmth and nourishment, she will recover her health gradually, and take to her usual diet. But,

6. To cure strong, foul Hawks,

If your hawk is strong, but unclean within, give her the following medicine. Put a quarter of a pound of fresh butter into a saucer full of white wine vinegar; boil them over a gentle fire, skimming away the gross parts they throw up; they being well clarified, put into them four bruised cloves, one branch of rue, one branch of wormwood, two flakes of saffron, and a tolerable piece of sugar-candy. Boil all these together a good while; then, taking out the rue, and the wormwood, and the cloves, and the saffron, and draining out what remains of the vinegar, make the rest into pills rolled in brown sugar-candy. Two of these pills, about the size of acorns, are the dose for a hawk. But, if this medicine does not work well enough, you may give her a little aloes, wrapt up in one of the pills, to increase its strength. This scouring is good for hawks surfeited by bad food,

food, as it both cleanses and comforts the bowels.

7. To cure lured Hawks heated in their Grease before they are thoroughly enseamed.

If your hawk be lured, but heated in her grease before she be thoroughly enseamed, give her the following scouring: Take equal quantities of rosemary and box-leaves powdered, with a little horehound; mingle them all in clarified fresh butter, and make them up in pills with brown candy sugar. The dose is a pill or two, which will purge the pannel and make your hawk enseam easily.

8. To cure an over-heated Liver, and overflowing Gall.

If you have reason to suspect your hawk's liver over-heated, or her gall overflowing, you must feed her with light cooling food, dipped into the distilled water of endive succory, wherein a slice of rhubarb has been infused. At the end of four days, give her a gentle scouring, to take away the binding quality of the rhubarb.

9. *To cure an over-heated Heart.*

If your hawk is over-heated about the heart, you will perceive her disease by the dryness and ropiness of her casting and mutes, by the dulness of the colour of her feathers and pounces, by her eagerness for bowing and bathing. In this case, light and cooling food must be observed; and, for a medicine, infuse half a dozen sliced cloves into the distilled water of borage and bugloss, and dip your hawk's meat into it. Give her also rest, that fatigue may not increase her disease.

10. *To cure the Fellanders.*

If your hawk is distressed by fellanders or other worms, and by hearing her peep in the night time, when pinched by them, give her a clove of garlick pierced through all over, which has been well steeped in the juice of worm-wood or in oil. Let her have this every night with her supper, for two or three days together, and offer water to her every morning. Then, leaving off the garlick, give her at supper two or three bits of meat rolled in mustard-seed, till she appear to have recovered her health.

11. *To*

11. *To cure Indigestion.*

If your hawk is troubled with indigestion, and unable to put her food over into her pannel, you must endeavour to make her throw it up, to prevent its putrifying on her gorge, and killing her. In this case, water, if she take it, and a few stones, have sometimes been known to do much good; but, when the evil is obstinate, use the following medicine to scour her gently. Take butter preserved in rose water, a little of the powders of saffron and myrrh, and the powder of half a dozen cloves of mace; mingle them all together with a little brown sugar-candy, and make the composition up into pills. Before you give your hawk any meat on her indigestion, give her one or two of these pills early in the morning. When you perceive her emptied by their operation, give her, at the usual hour of feeding, but a single bit of the very best meat, and the same quantity at other times, just as she is easily able to digest. Next morning, give her stones, with a pill of worm-wood; and, after casting them, feed her with clean sweet meat dipped in the water set down in No. 2.

Avoid

Avoid forcing your hawk to throw up, lest the straining kill her ; except the hawk be strong enough to bear the size of a bean of alum, which will certainly bring all away. After the alum, you shall give her some of the above mentioned water to comfort her bowels.

12. *To cure Heat of the Stomach.*

If your hawk is subject to drought and heat in the stomach, or in any other of her inward parts, you will relieve her by the following medicine. Take almost two ounces of French barley, well washed, and boil it for a minute in fair water in a pipkin ; throw away that water, and put to it the same quantity of new water, letting that boil just as long ; change that water too, and put to the barley a quart of fair water, and boil it into a pint ; strain this pint through a linen cloth from the barley, and mixt it up with as much sugar-candy as will sweeten it, letting them boil together for a minute. When it is cold, give some of it to your hawk, as often as you feed her, for four days ; for it will keep good no longer, and you are to make it a-new as long as you need it.

13. *To cure the Croak.*

If your hawk be seized with the croak, a very dangerous and deadly disease, use the following medicine. Into a half a pint of claret, put a little sugar-candy, three or four thin slices of the whitest ginger, and as many bruised cloves. Pour these into a silver or pewter plate, covered close with another, which answers it so exactly as to let none of the steam escape; and boil them over a slow fire, in a chaffing-dish, keeping the heat equal by a pair of bellows. Take off the cover now and then, and wipe off the moisture you will find on it, with a feather, into a dish, where you may keep it till you put it in a vial, when it is all collected. Give your hawk a little of it with her food, and at the same time rest and warmth: And, if she be newly taken ill, it will certainly cure her. If the cramp is joined with the croak, give her the scouring mentioned in No. 4. But, if the hawk be low, you must give her a very gentle dose. The above liquid also helps digestion and weakness. But, if the hawk has been long disordered with the crowck, and has given over eating, the following management is seldom ineffectual.

Instead

Instead of warmth, and drugs, and indolence, you must set your hawk to her wings night and day, about the house, and in plantations, where she may sit dry when she wants to rest. She will follow you when you go to the field, croaking hard and craving food; but the first day she will only tear and throw away her food, without swallowing a bit. The next day, however, she will be enabled by her exercise to take a little, perhaps half a sparrow; and come thus to her stomach by degrees. When she is able to eat any thing, you must put a pepper clove into a bit of her food, which is to be always of small birds, while she is so very weak.

This terrible distemper arises from foul-feeding, hunger-streſs from her being lost a few days, beating from the fist, hanging by the jesses, and from cold after heat.

14. *To cure the Cramp,*

If your hawk be seized with the cramp, a disease produced by cold without exercise, or by foul feeding, and if she be clean and perfectly enfeamed, mind the following management. Boil, in a large brass pot full of water, two or
three

three handfuls of red and white sage, and as much polypody of the oak. Cover the pot, after you have taken it off the fire, with woollen cloth very thick, that the warm steam may rise very gently through it, neither too hot nor too cold. On this covering lay your hawk; and renew the heat of the water as you see occasion, when it cools; and also give her a clove of garlick every morning, for two or three days successively, to expel the inward cold. But if you suspect grease within her, purge it away with a little leaf of rue and wormwood shred finely down, and mingled with fresh butter and sugarcandy. Give one or two pills of this composition to your hawk two or three mornings in the week; and it will in due time restore her health.

15. *To cure the Frownce.*

If your hawk is seized with the frownce, you will know it by the mouth and throat being continually frothy, furred, and white. This disease is occasioned by water which falls from the head on the throat and tongue, and affects both as a cancer. The way to prevent this disorder
is,

is, to give your hawk, when she is stuffed in the head with cold, the rump of a cow or sheep, fixed on the block, to tear at; and the violent pulling will make the water to fly out of her nares, and so hinder it from producing the frownee. The way to cure it is as follows. Take a saucer-ful of the very best white wine vinegar; boil in it, for four minutes, three or four leaves of red sage; add a pretty good quantity of the powder of burnt allum; and then let it boil about a minute. Put up the liquor for use in a glass-vial, well stopp'd, when cold. But, if the hawk be dangerously infected, steep for a day, in the liquor, the size of two small nuts of brimstone, finely powdered, and tied up in a linen bag; and with this addition the medicine will cure the most inveterate frownee. While you administer this cure, your hawk must be clean within, and be indulged in rest and good nourishment. You are to lay on this liquor a little warm, with a feather anointing the scabs. After the first dressing, take off the scabs to the quick; and immediately anoint the sores with the feather dipped in the liquor. Let this dressing continue till the third day, when you are to
take

take off such scabs as are ready of themselves to come away; and let the rest remain till they loosen and come easily off, that by frequent dressing you may not ruin your hawk's mouth. But, if the disease be just beginning, you may stop its progress, by blowing burnt allum through a quill into the hawk's mouth and throat, which will cure her.

16. To cure the Cramp in the Feet and Legs.

If your hawk is seized in the legs and feet only with the cramp, the following cure has been recommended. Put the powder of peony-root by your hawk, all day, in a little bag of linen, that she may smell it; all night hang it about her neck in a string. Or take a bit of bryony-root, and fasten it about your hawk's leg, and lay it also near her beak, that she may taste it.

17. To cure the Pin.

The pin is a disease which rises in the feet of hawks, from their restlessness in the mew; whereby they are battered into callousness resembling corns in human feet. The pin can be cured
only

only by careful excision, and the wound is to be cured with a plaster of galbanon, white pitch, and Venice turpentine, spread on fine leather, and nicely fastened. Repeat the dressing thrice a week, till the wound is healed.

18. *To cure a Bruise.*

If your hawk's legs or feet swell from a bruise, anoint and rub the place with refined bacon grease, beaten well up with aquavita, and wrap it about with a linen rag soaked in the bacon grease melted; and about that wrap another cloth, or bit of leather, to defend it from the air.

19. *To cure the Cray.*

The cray is a disease of hawks which makes them mute scantily, and with difficulty; and arises from cold occasioned by gross and cold-washed meat. To cure this distemper, you are to feed your hawk with chickens, young pigeons, and other food of light and easy digestion. In the mean time, clarify some very fresh butter, with ten bruised cloves of mace boiled in it; and, as it cools, add a little of the powder of rue. Put this composition in a box, and anoint
your

your hawk's food with it, giving her easy gorges. This will soon open her head, and enable her to slice cleverly. But, if you would have her head perfectly well purged, and her inward passages thoroughly cooled, use the juice of daisies or sage, to cause her throw out the remaining noxious humours. This done, add to the juice a little of the flower of brimstone, gradually to dry them up; and give her also with her meat the water of barley, as prepared in No. 12.

20. *To cure the Itching of a Hawk.*

Hawks are sometimes seized with an itching in the bloody part of the feather, where it is inserted into their bodies; and, to ease themselves, they bite and tug at it with their beaks, till they pull it out. To cure this itch, take a pint of the best vinegar, two races of ginger grated to dust, and boil them together a good while with three branches of rue. Then add the size of a walnut of alam, and half a spoonful of honey; and let them boil a little longer. A little of this preparation, laid warm with a feather on the diseased feathers, will effectually cure them.

21. *Of*

21. *Of a bad-weathered Hawk.*

If your hawk is bad-weathered, that is, will not sit on your fist when the wind blows, but hales, and beats, and hangs by the jesses, she has an ill habit of the worst kind. The way to cure her is, to turn her out, in a stormy night, among trees, where she can have no shelter, but be obliged to hold by the branches. If this expedient do not amend her, she is incurable, and no longer worth your attention.

K k

A GLOS-



**A GLOSSARY of the Technical Terms of
FAULCONRY.**

The Faulconer's Word is, HOLD FAST.

A

ARMS ; the legs of a hawk from the thigh to the foot

B

Bathing ; the action of a hawk when she refreshes herself in water

Beak ; the crooked part of her bill

Beams ; the long feathers of her wings

Beating ; the fluttering of her wings when she strives to fly away from perch or fist

Bowling ; her drinking frequently.

C

Cage ; a machine of a square figure, formed of four narrow boards, on which falconers transport their hawks from place to place, when they have many.

Casting ; the feathers given a hawk to cleanse her gorge

Casting

C

Castig a hawk ; the holding her in your hands
by the shoulders with her wings close, that
she may not beat when you force any thing
on her

Cawking ; the treading of hawks

Ceasing ; the fast hold a hawk takes with her
foot

Cesfel ; the first long feather of a hawk's wings

Check ; the flying away of a hawk from her na-
tural game, after rooks, or pigeons

Cowering ; the shaking of a young hawk's
wings in obedience to an old one

Crabbing ; the fighting of hawks as they fit by
one another

Cutell ; the third long feather of a hawk's
wings

D

Dislosed ; newly hatched

Dropping ; the muting of a hawk directly down-
wards.

E

Endew ; is thorough digestion

Eyrie ; the hawk's nest, or the place where she
builds it.

Feaking ;

F

Feaking; the wiping which a hawk gives her beak after she is fed

Flag-feathers; the shortest feathers of a hawk's wings next to the shoulders.

Flying on head; this the hawk is said to do, when, missing the fowl she set out after, she takes the next check

G

Gleeming; the throwing up of filth after casting

Glute; the slimy substance in the pannel

Gorge; the crop or craw

Gurgiting, suffocating, by whatever cause, or kind of meat.

I

Inke; the neck of any bird from the head to the body

Intermewed; the change of a hawk's colour from red to white, the second year

Jeuk (to;) to sleep.

L

Lice; a sort of vermine which live on hawks

Longopen; the second of the long feathers of a hawk's wings.

Malc-

M

Make-hawk ; an old staunch hawk, used to instruct young ones in flying

Male-feathers ; those on the breast

Managing ; the making of a hawk manny or tame

Manling ; the lowering of a hawk's wings down to her feet.

Mew ; the place where a hawk changes her feathers

Mites ; a vermine, smaller than lice, found about the head and nares

Mute ; the excrement of hawks.

N

Nares ; the nostrils.

P

Pannel ; the part next the fundament, where digestion is completed

Pelt ; the dismembered carcase of any fowl

Pendant feathers ; those behind the thigh

Petty fingers ; the toes of a hawk

Pill of a fowl ; what remains after the hawk is fed

Plumage ; small downy feathers given hawks for casting.

Plume ; the colour of a hawk's feathers whereby her age or constitution is known.

Pluming ;

P

Pluming; this a hawk is said to do when she pulls the feathers off her prey

Prey; what a hawk kills, and feeds on herself.

Q

Quarry; the fowl which hawks are flown at.

R

Raised in flesh; a hawk in this condition is fat and prospers

Rake out; a hawk does so when she flies too far out from the game

Ramage; wild, unmanageable

Reclaiming; taming

Roufing; the action of a hawk when she shakes herself

Ruffing; when the hawk strikes, but does not truss her prey.

S

Sails; the wings of a hawk

Seiling; the blinding of a haggard with a thread passed through her eye-lids, to hold them together in order to tame her

Setting down; the putting of a hawk into the mew

Slicing; the muting of a hawk to a good distance from her

Sliming;

Sliming; her mouting directly down, without dropping

Snyting; sneezing

Soar-hawk; so called from the time she is taken from the eyrie till she has mewed her feathers

Stooping; the quick and impetuous descent of a hawk to strike her prey

Summed; a hawk is so when she has all her feathers, and is ready to be taken from the mew.

T

Tearing; the action of a hawk pulling at the pinion of a wing

Train; the tail

Trussing; a hawk does this when she raises a fowl into the air, and comes down with it again.

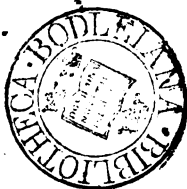
U

Unsummed; a hawk is so when she has not yet received all her feathers.

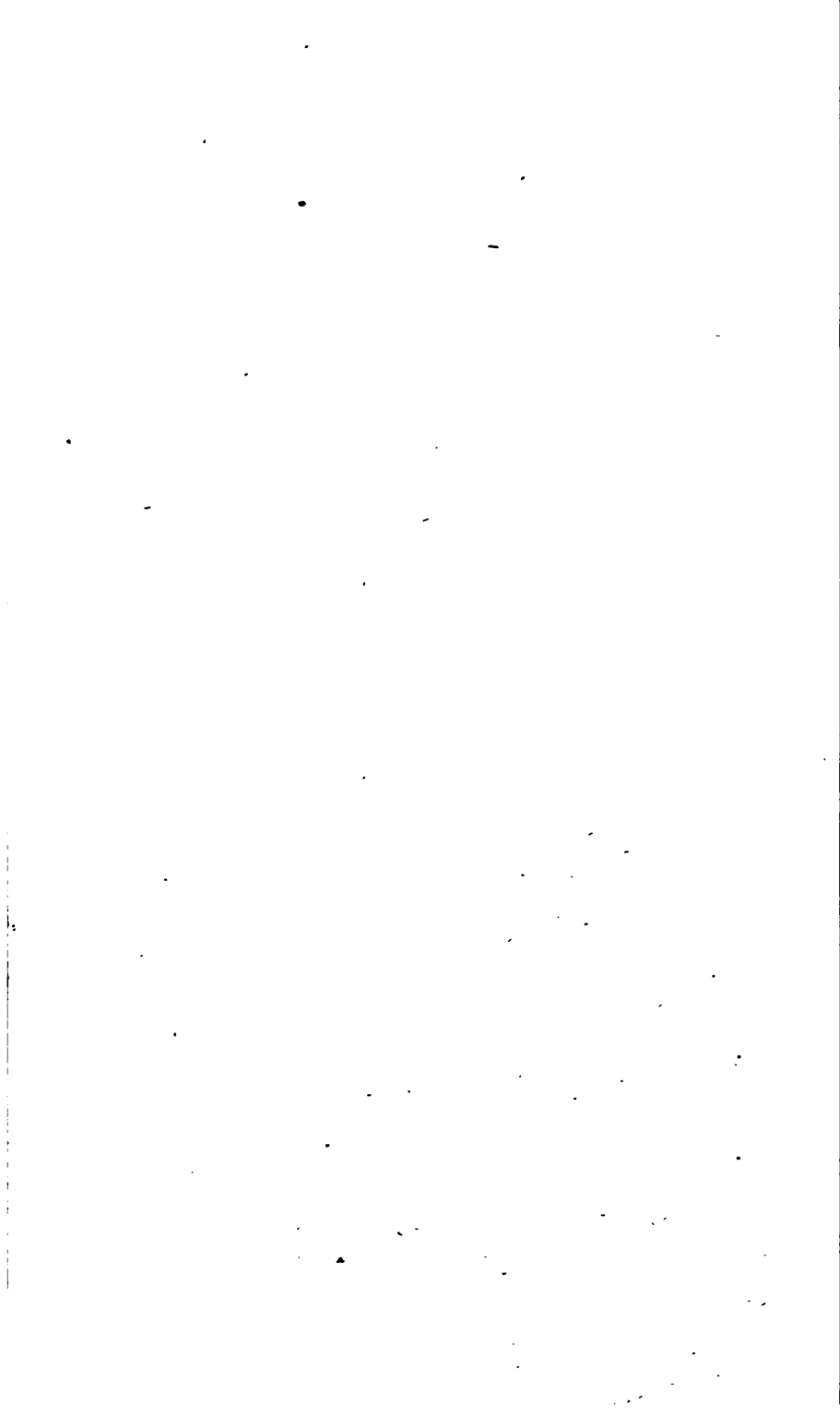
W

Warbling; the crossing of the wings over the back

Weathering; the setting out of a hawk to take the air.







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